CARMEL VALLEY SUN

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RURAL CUSTOMER

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THE STEELHEAD LADDER is shown against the pounding surf which delayed its completion. Point Lobos is in the background. *Sun photo by Stan Hall.*

Swells Delay Steelhead Ladder

An uncooperative ocean—seas running as high as 15 feet—delayed completion of a fish ladder designed to lure steelhead back into Carmel River waters.

Heavy swells, especially on Sunday, held up the placing of pumps 100 yards or so offshore to pump seawater in to fill the ladder and create the foot-high "steps" over which officials hope to lure the fish by adding small amounts of river water.

"Schedules don't mean much when you're playing by the ocean's rules," said a diver who was standing by to swim out with a line to tow the pumps to their proper place.

The ladder had been scheduled to be in operation Monday, but as the *Sun* went to press, it appeared the earliest it could be flowing was Tuesday afternoon.

If fish are lured up the 150-foot ladder, they will be captured in a holding tank and transported either to the upper river where water is flowing or to a state hatchery for breeding.

Because of the drought, the river has not flowed into the ocean since 1987, limiting the migration of young fish to the ocean and the return of mature fish to their spawning grounds.

Dave Dettman, a biologist with the Water Management District who planned the $14,000 ladder, told the *Sun* he still planned to keep it running about five days once he got it operating.

The ladder is made up of pre-fabricated cement weirs—or steps— timbers to hold them together and a heavy vinyl sheet to form a channel over the sand.

In proposing the ladder, Dettman cautioned that the chances that it would fail to attract fish were fairly high. He explained that evidence indicated there were only a few steelhead in the ocean trying to get up the river. In addition, he said experience with attracting fish back to their spawning grounds with artificial means is limited.

Volunteers, including members of the Carmel River Steelhead Association, helped out with construction of the ladder. Local businesses also contributed some of the materials.

Sea water combined with a small amount of river water from a lagoon formed by a huge sand dune across the mouth of the river will be pumped down the ladder at the rate of about 2,500 gallons a minute. It is the presence of the river water that attracts the fish, although scientists do not understand precisely what causes the fish to seek out the waters where they were born when it is time for them to spawn.

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On Little Horse Ranch

County, State Press Illegal Grading Case

By Stan Hall

With the state and County pressing their case against John A. Murphy, a county inspector estimated that more than 75,000 cubic yards of rock and soil were graded from the steep slopes of his Little Horse Ranch to create illegal roads.

The estimate by grading inspector Phil Carrasco was contained in depositions filed by state and county lawyers in their latest legal maneuver against the Arizona lawyer and developer.

Murphy is charged with grading several miles of new or expanded roads on the 4,300 acre ranch without obtaining a permit from the County for development in the coastal zone. He has contended that state and county authorities were aware of the grading on the property overlooking Garrapata State Park and gave at least tacit approval of it.

The case is seen as a major test of the County's ability to protect the scenic area under the Coastal Act. After the County charged Murphy with illegal grading, the state attorney general's office intervened on behalf of the Coastal Commission.

In motions filed March 9, state and county lawyers asked Superior Court for summary disallowal of what amounts to Murphy's first line of defense against the charges. The motions were filed by J. R. Ramos for the County and its planning and inspection department, Deputy District Attorney Morgan Taylor and Deputy Attorney General Peter H. Kaufman for the state on behalf of the Coastal Commission.

Ramos said they asked for summary disallowal because no substantial controversy existed over some issues in the case. But Susan Dauphine, one of Murphy's lawyers, told the *Sun*: "While we have not thoroughly reviewed their motions, we definitely disagree. There are many facts in dispute in the case."

Ramos, in his motion, asked the court to declare that no one in authority told Murphy or his people to eliminate hazardous conditions on the roads without a permit, no one modified requirements for emergency roads in the area and that ero-

Continued on page 22

Advisory Duties to be Restored By County Planning Department

Bowing to pressure and criticism, the County Planning Department said it will restore the full duties of its 17 citizens' advisory committees by the end of the month.

"We're moving in that direction—to restore them by the end of the month," Zoning Administrator Dale Ellis told the *Sun*.

He had just been asked about a letter that 5th District Supervisor Karin Strasser Kauffman sent to her constituents who had complained about the cutback.

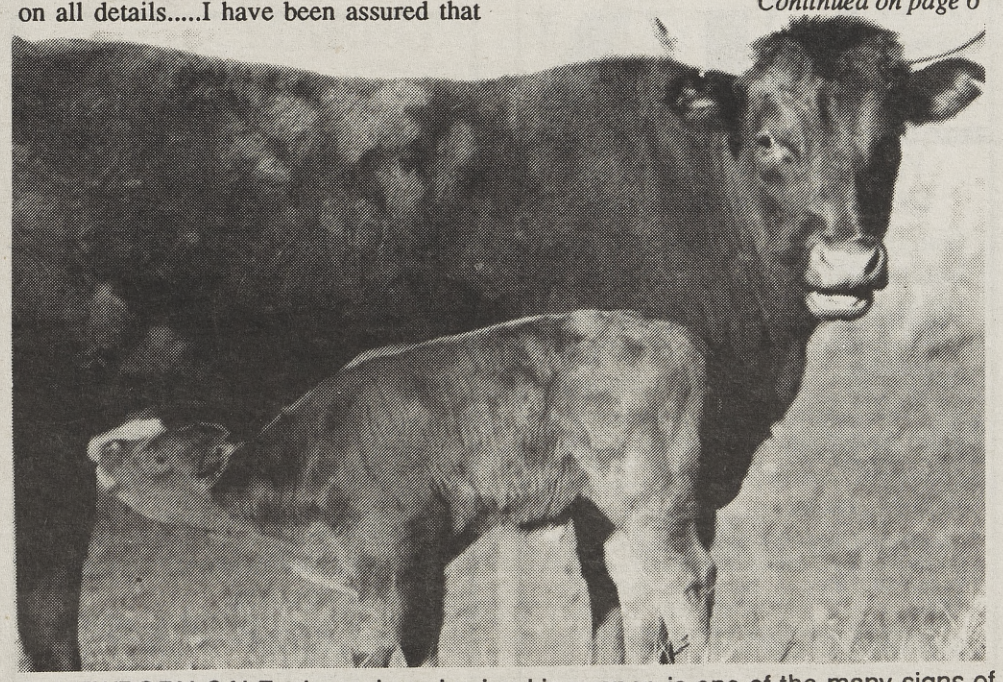
In her letter, Mrs. Strasser Kauffman said: "I am happy to inform you that the Planning Department will be cancelling the recent procedures and returning to the established review mechanism which includes the Citizen Advisory Committees on all details.....I have been assured that the resumption...will take place by the end of March."

Ellis touched off a storm of controversy when he wrote to the committees on Jan. 31 that because of vacancies on the planning staff, the department was suspending review of 19 items the committees have traditionally investigated and made recommendations on.

Among the projects eliminated from local review were small accessory structures of 450 square feet or less such as guest houses, studios and garages, additions of 10 percent or less to a maximum of 1,000 square feet, skylights, solar panels, fireplaces, decks, hot tubs, spas, pools and fences.

Citing 10 vacancies on the planning staff at that time, Ellis said those items

Continued on page 6



A NEWBORN CALF, shown here having his supper, is one of the many signs of spring popping up all over Carmel Valley. Spring officially arrived at 1:19 p.m. March 20. *Sun photo by Isabelle Hall*

LETTERS

Carmel Residents Abroad

Your issue of Feb. 7-20, 1990, has just arrived. It brings us wonderful news. We wholeheartedly applaud the stand taken Feb. 1 by Carmel Mayor Jean Grace, the Sierra Club and the Hatton Canyon Coalition in support of widening Highway 1. The elimination of traffic lights at Carpenter Street, Ocean Avenue and Rio Road with overpasses and underpasses—especially the latter at Carmel Valley Road—would unquestionably solve our existing traffic problem for many years.

Tiny Netherlands has the largest population for its size of any country in the world outside Bangladesh. The horrendous traffic problems here have been solved by overpasses and underpasses. This has been accomplished while leaving large stretches of wetlands, woods, parks and farmland. Maybe Caltrans should fly over one of their representatives to see how Dutch traffic difficulties have been and are continuing to be solved especially in areas of pure sand.

John and Elizabeth Wiley
Loenen a/d Vecht
Netherlands

Man's Best Friend

We wish to thank you for Sam and your sorrow and the account of the origin of the dog as man's best friend. It mustn't have been easy to write. You said so much in so few words.

I have clear pictures in my mind of Sam as if I knew him too. They've joined the pictures of Traveller and Mona and Topper that float in and out of my thoughts still after many years.

Jesse and Anita DeCarlo and Binkly
Monterey.

Letters-to-Editor Rules

1. Letters should be about topics of immediate local interest to *Sun* readers. They must be signed and include both a home address and a telephone number. Anonymous letters and those whose authorship can not be verified will not be printed.

2. Please keep letters brief, under 250 words if possible. The *Sun* will print longer letters on occasion, but shorter letters have a better chance of being used; longer letters may sometimes be returned with a request that they be shortened.

3. The *Sun* reserves the right to edit all letters and is the final authority on which ones will be used. As a local newspaper, the *Sun* will reject letters on international, national and state issues unless they directly concern Greater Carmel, Carmel Valley and the Monterey Peninsula.

CARMEL VALLEY SUN

Your Biweekly Source Of Carmel Valley News

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Sam's Loss Understood

For years I have carried a copy of the speech by George Graham Vest about man's best friend.

I share with you your loss of Sam, and I understand only too well what you are going through.

Edgar H. Haber
Carmel

Skywatch Applauded

On behalf of all your readers who love to look at the stars on our beautiful clear nights, I want to thank you for your new feature "Skywatch."

This is one of the best astronomy features I have seen anywhere. You and the author, Dr. Ana Torres-Dodgen, are to be congratulated and thanked for conceiving and running it.

My wife and I enjoy your paper very much, and this gives us just another reason to read it.

Lyman McBride
Carmel

Title 21 Absurdities

It has been refreshing to see the *Sun* provide the public with strong coverage of the Title 21 hearing process. The agricultural community has worked long and hard to educate farmers and ranchers throughout the County about the tedious absurdity of many points raised in the draft zoning ordinance.

Through the vocal opposition of an organized agricultural constituency, citizens from all sectors of the County have also recognized the inherent weaknesses of Title 21 as it is now written. We are gratified by the overwhelming public interest in this issue, as evidenced by the tremendous public showing at recent hearings and the many thoughtful and well-reasoned presentations which have been made to the Board of Supervisors.

Having shown sincere empathy for the tremendous outpouring of frustrated and overburdened farmers and ranchers, we applaud the Board's demonstrated willingness to work with agriculture and carefully consider its concerns. We agree that reasonable, workable guidelines are necessary for the planning process, but remain convinced that Title 21 is overtly intrusive and unnecessarily far-reaching.

We believe this cooperative spirit is both healthy and productive, and that it will result in a more thoughtfully and responsibly crafted zoning ordinance for Monterey County.

Thelma Moses and Gary Robinson
Central Coast Agricultural Task Force

A Political Football

Wallace Holm, architect/planner has worked out refinements of the split route alternative to a Hatton Canyon Freeway. The modified design looks very good to me—especially at the mouth of Carmel Valley.

Caltrans has not given the split route or widening alternatives adequate consideration in their EIS. Is it not time, after 35 years, to have an even-handed, objective evaluation of all the alternatives by an independent traffic engineer and planner before deciding which is the "preferred" alternative?

Several alternatives should be evaluated for traffic benefits, cost, effect on future development, environmental and visual consequences. They are: widening the existing highway; split route; Canada del Segunda bypass: bypass for Carmel Valley/Monterey commuters coupled with minor widening of Highway 1.

Only after the consequences of a decision on an alternative are known should the decision be made.

This project has never been resolved because it has always been a political football and the players have been saying, "My mind is made up, don't confuse me with the facts."

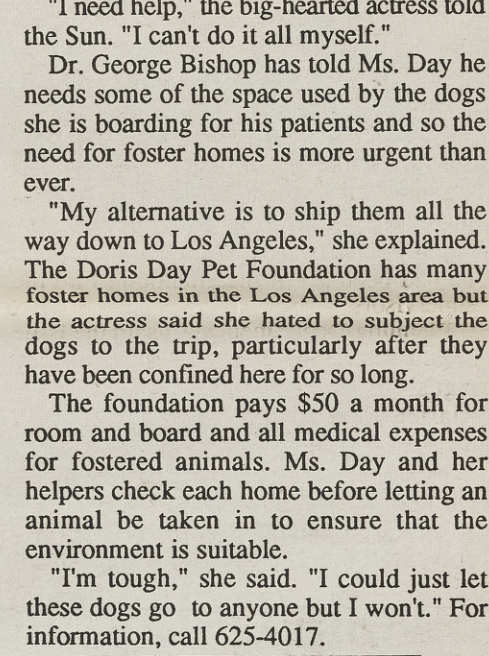
My mind is not made up. Please confuse me with the facts, for once.

Roger Larson
Carmel

A Customer Lost

I have just completed reading Michael Collins' letter concerning Kasey's "manpower franchise." I was a regular customer of Kasey's until recently. I was becoming increasingly uncomfortable with the evergrowing group of loiterers and chose to take my business elsewhere. The owners of Kasey's should know that some of their customers are leaving because of this group of unknowns. This is a problem that is promising to get out of hand.

Florence Buchenroth
Carmel Valley



"JAMIE," A LHASA APSO, has been boarding at Crossroads Animal Hospital since last fall waiting for a new family to adopt him.

Doris Day Needs Foster Homes for Abandoned Dogs

Last October, Doris Day attended the annual SPCA Fashion show and agreed to shelter all the dogs that were not adopted at the fund-raising event. She is still boarding most of them at the Crossroads Animal Hospital unable to find suitable homes—or even foster homes.

"I need help," the big-hearted actress told the Sun. "I can't do it all myself."

Dr. George Bishop has told Ms. Day he needs some of the space used by the dogs she is boarding for his patients and so the need for foster homes is more urgent than ever.

"My alternative is to ship them all the way down to Los Angeles," she explained. The Doris Day Pet Foundation has many foster homes in the Los Angeles area but the actress said she hated to subject the dogs to the trip, particularly after they have been confined here for so long.

The foundation pays $50 a month for room and board and all medical expenses for fostered animals. Ms. Day and her helpers check each home before letting an animal be taken in to ensure that the environment is suitable.

"I'm tough," she said. "I could just let these dogs go to anyone but I won't." For information, call 625-4017.

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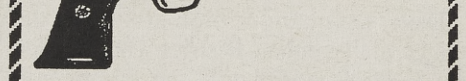

Cachagua Volunteer Fire Company
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Sunday, April 8th
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4 Events: Clay Birds
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Wood Pecker
Bowling pins—5 pins
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Raffle: Donation $1.00
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Village Mini-Plan Nears Completion

By Isabelle Hall

Working mostly behind the scenes with Supervisor Karin Strasser Kauffman, the Carmel Valley Village Advisory Committee has reached a compromise on the long-awaited Village "Mini-Plan" which could be approved at the next Board of Supervisors' meeting April 3.

"We're five dedicated people who want to protect and preserve the rural nature of the village," spokesman Peter Coakley told the board March 13. "The committee's plan was almost unrecognizable when the document came back from the Planning Commission it was so watered down."

Committee members had worked with Strasser Kaufmann to their mutual satisfaction with one exception: off-site signs.

Committee member Randy Randazzo, faced with strong opposition from the 5th District Supervisor on the issue, made a final plea to the board to urge that shopping centers with 10 shops or more be allowed to erect off-site directional signs.

Fearful that allowing such signs in the village would lead to a "proliferation of signs on Carmel Valley Road," Strasser Kauffman said, "I cannot support that request because it opens a Pandora's box in the valley. I appreciate the dilemma but real estate prices vary accordingly. If you've got an off-site premise, you pay less. You can advertise in other ways."

She said opening the option would have people "advertising everything up in those hills."

Such off-site signs as those for Robles del Rio Lodge and Begonia Gardens are allowed under grandfather clauses, she explained.

Randozzo, who operates the Carmel Valley Market in the Village Center off Carmel Valley Road, said after the hearing that other merchants in the center had been counting on him. He said he did not think he had been given the attention of all the supervisors.

Planning Department staff said the issue was a lost cause in any event as off-site signs are banned in the Carmel Valley Master Plan under which the Village Mini-Plan falls.

Aftrer a brief public hearing March 13, the board listened to Strasser Kauffman's list of changes in the draft report and voted to postpone a decision until April 3 when the changes could be presented in printed form.

Strasser Kauffman said the Mini-Plan represented the "greatest refinement of planning we've been able to come to."But even the name "Mini-Plan" has to be approved as the revised document had appeared before the board under the title, "Carmel Valley Village Development Criteria."

The Village committe objected to the new name on grounds it had always been known as a"mini-plan."

An attempt by Strasser Kauffman to have the plan include criteria for the hours under which service centers in the village can operate was squelched when 2nd District Supervisors Barbara Shipnuck said the board could not legislate business hours within the guidelines of a plan.

Deputy County Counsel Efren N. Iglesia said that while the county had broad police powers under which business hour regulations might fall, the proposed regulation should be taken out of the Village plan. He said a service center applicant might have to go through the entire plan amendment process in order to operate if it were adopted.

Committee member Roger Williams, who had hoped the mini-plan would be approved March 13, was nevertheless pleased with the hearing. He told the Sun all the problems had been solved. Other members of the committee were Debbie Saxton and Bob Heald,

WELCOMING MORE DONATIONS for the Monte Carlo Night fundraiser for the Carmel Valley Community Youth Center are, from left, Ellen Karadimas, Kathleen Tarp, Kate McAnaney and Marleny Mancebo. The evening of fun and chance will be held April 28 at Hidden Valley Music Seminars. Tickets are $15 and are on sale at the Youth Center office or they may be purchased at the door. This year's ticket price includes an extensive buffet. *Sun photo by John Anderson*

Astronomy Institute Gets Powerful Computer

The Monterey Institute for Research in Astronomy (MIRA) has begun a program to study stellar atmospheres thanks to the gift of a powerful computer workstation from Sun Microsystems Corp. of Santa Clara.

Dr. Bruce Weaver, president and research astronomer at MIRA, has already begun using the new Sun 4/60 on the study.

"This state-of-the-art workstation has about ten times the computing power of a university mainframe computer of a decade ago," said Dr. Hazel Ross, administrator of the institute. "It would have taken months of continuous computer time from one of those earlier computers to complete this program."

Dr. Ross said the initial impetus for the gift came from the Margaret W. and Herbert Hoover Jr. Foundation of Pasadena which felt that the antiquated computer system at MIRA's Oliver Observatory on Chews Ridge in the Cachagua area needed to be upgraded. Their gift was matched by contributions from Friends of MIRA who support the non-profit corporation.

Cooper Ranch Planning Rescheduled to Wednesday

The public meeting of the Regional Park District board of directors to consider the future of the Coooper Ranch addition to Garland Park has been rescheduled. It will be held at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 28 at Cooper Ranch.

Park Manager Gary Tate said the working session of the board is open to the public, but no public comment will be taken.

The session originally was scheduled for late Thursday afternoon.

Next Issue Deadline
March 28

Our Fabulous Friends Need Foster Homes!

If you have a fenced yard and can care for a dog awaiting adoption, please call. We pay $50 a month room and board plus all medical expenses.

The Doris Day Pet Foundation
625-4017

Positive Thoughts
Herman & Miriam Fickewirth

I ASKED GOD

I asked God for strength,
that I might achieve...
I was made weak,
that I might learn humbly to obey.
I asked for health,
that I might do greater things...
I was given infirmity,
that I might do better things.
I asked for riches,
that I might be happy...
I was given poverty,
that I might be wise.
I asked for power,
that I might have the praise of men...
I was given weakness,
that I might feel the need of God.
I asked for all things,
that I might enjoy life...
I was given life,
that I might enjoy all things.
I got nothing that I asked for,
but everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself,
my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am among men, most richly blessed!

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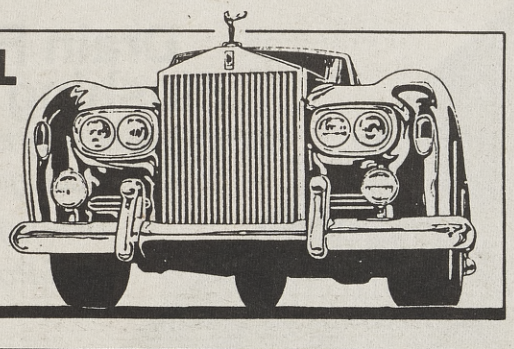

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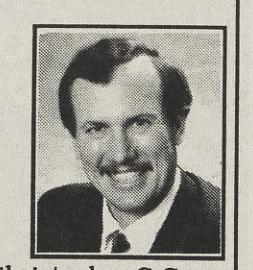
Christopher C.Cayce
Carmel Valley

We're here to fight for you, if necessary, and we're here to keep you out of trouble in the first place!

2150 Garden Road, Monterey
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SHERIFF'S LOG

SOUTH COAST. Carmel Highlands Chevron station reported a window was broken but nothing was missing. 3/4.
VILLAGE. Village Chevron reported stereo equipment was stolen from two vehicles parked outside. 3/5.
VILLAGE. A woman on El Potrero reported someone was possibly "casing" her neighborhood; investigating deputies questioned a Salinas man who said he was simply lost. 3/6.
VILLAGE. A Village resident reported all four tires were stolen from a pickup while it was parked outside the British Import Garage on Esquiline. 3/7.

Missing Coins

MID VALLEY. A woman on Eddy Road reported a jar of coins disappeared from her bedroom while workmen were in the house installing new tile in her bathroom. 3/7.
CACHAGUA. A man reported $1,100 worth of mechanic's tools were stolen from a home on Cachagua Road by someone who broke in the back door. 3/7.
VILLAGE. Mail, allegedly taken from a mailbox on Via del Zorro was found on Garzas Road. 3/8.
MID VALLEY. Badly hurt when hit by traffic, a deer was found at Carmel Valley and Scarlett Roads and killed by deputies. 3/8.

A Muddy Mercury?

MID VALLEY. A woman on Prado del Sol reported someone broke into her parked car, stole $4 and then smeared the vehicle with mud. 3/11.
SOUTH COAST. A Tampa, Fla., woman reported her car was broken into while it was parked near Garrapata Beach and her purse was taken. 3/11.
MID VALLEY. A Pacific Grove man reported his cabin near Rancho San Carlos was burglarized and two guns taken. 3/11.
HIGHWAY 1. A transient was arrested for *shoplifting at the Crossroads Safeway. 3/11.*
MID VALLEY. Two boys and a girl were taken to juvenile hall after a check of their car at the BP Station disclosed burglary tools and stereo components that had been taken earlier from cars at Pacific Grove and Carmel High Schools and at Carmel Rancho. 3/11.

High and Dry?

HIGHWAY 1. A Hatton Road resident reported someone had entered a storage shed at the rear of his home and stolen eight bottles of whiskey. 3/12.
LOWER VALLEY. A resident reported finding a safe in the river behind his house. 3/12.
VILLAGE. A Boronda Road resident reported mail had been stolen from his mailbox. 3/12.
HIGHWAY 1. Carmel Mission Inn reported a man skipped out on his hotel bill; investigators believed he also was using a stolen credit card and driving a stolen car. 3/13.
VILLAGE. A woman on Aliso Road reported that a goat was in her yard. 3/14.
VILLAGE. A woman on Ford Road reported finding her front door was open, but nothing was amiss. 3/14.

Small Business Trade Conference at MPC

An international trade conference on "Export/Import From Start to Finance" will be held March 24 at the Monterey Peninsula College campus.

The conference is designed to help small firms in leading export industries to pursue international markets. The U.S. Small business Administration estimates there are nearly 17,000 small firms in California alone that do not pursue overseas markets because of the perceived perplexities involved.

The California World Trade Commission, the U.S. Department of Commerce *and the U.S. Small Business Administration* will explain their small business international trade services and programs. Call 375-9604 for information.

Carmody Is New Carmel Postmaster

Donn Carmody said he was lucky to succeed Jack Holt as Carmel Postmaster.

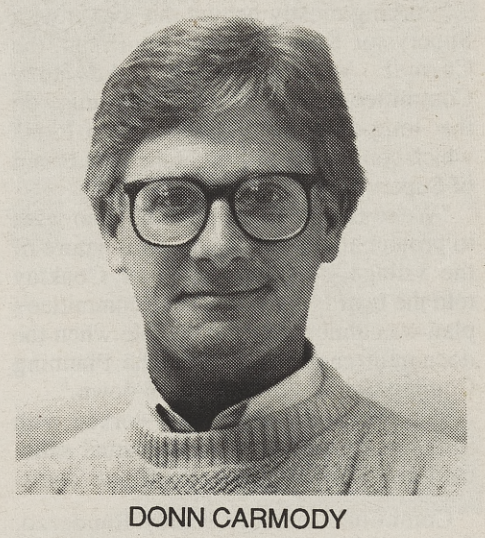
"I'm fortunate to be following an expert administrator," Carmody said. "There's not a lot that needs to be done, so I don't foresee any drastic changes."

Carmody took over the Carmel job following Holt's retirement after more than three decades with the Postal Service. Carmody came from Santa Cruz where he was manager of the station and branch operations.

Carmody, who began his postal career in 1966, is in charge of a level-21 office with 56 employes, three supervisors, two offices—on Via Nona Marie at the Mouth of the Valley and in Carmel-by-the-Sea—4,597 rural deliveries and 7,784 post office boxes.

A level-21 office is a fairly large one, Carmody said, compared to Salinas as a level-24 office and Monterey as a level-22. He said the two Carmel branches generated annual revenues of around $2.6 million.

Holt returned Carmody's compliment, telling the *Sun* that "he's a good guy, and he's a young guy." Carmody is 42.


DONN CARMODY

A bachelor, Carmody said he plans to move to the area, but hasn't hsn't had time to look for a place yet. He said, however, that one of the first things he did was move his sailboat to Monterey.

Men Held on Charges They Planned Heist

Two Seaside men are being held in lieu of a total of $1 million bail after their arrest on suspicion they were planning to try to hold up a jewelry store in the Barnyard.

Arraigned on March 16 were Shane Hatton, 29, and Michael Chioino, 31. They were arrested in Seaside on March 13 by sheriff's deputies, who had begun an investigation with the FBI and State Parole Office after receiving a tip from an informant early in January.

Two .22 caliber pistols were confiscated during the arrests which came after the informant reported that the robbery was about to take place, and a stake-out by officers watched the men "casing" the store, *deputies said.*

Hatton is held in Monterey County jail on $750,000 bail and Chioino on $250,000 bail.

Regional Park Sets Four Spring Hikes

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District has scheduled four hikes in the next few weeks. They are:

March 25—A difficult, eight-mile hike for strong hikers only in the steep terrain of de Dampierre addition to Garland Park. Meet at 8:45 a.m. in the parking lot of Garland Park to form carpools. Bring lunch and water.

March 30—The last Friday of the month hike leaves the Visitor's Center at 3 p.m.

March 31—Naturalist Nikki Nedeff will lead a natural history walk at the Marina Dunes. Meet at the end of Dunes Drive off Reservation Road at 2 p.m.

April 1—A leisurely 2-4 mile hike through Garland Park is planned. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Visitor's Center

For more information, call 659-4488.

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CVPOA Opposes Rate Hike To Finance Canada Studies

The Carmel Valley Property Owners Association (CVPOA) opposes a water rate increase by Cal Am to pay for detailed engineering studies into the proposed Canada de la Segunda off-stream reservoir.

Emphasizing that it is not against the idea of the reservoir, the CVPOA opposed a proposal for the board of supervisors to send a letter to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) supporting such a rate increase. Despite the CVPOA's stand, the board voted to support the increase March 13.

The PUC is scheduled to meet on the Peninsula April 16, and CVPOA directors agreed to continue their opposition then.

Robert Greenwood, chairman of the CVPOA water management committee, said the homeowners' basic argument is that the Water Management District is obligated to study the off-stream reservoir as part of its investigation into alternatives to a new dam on the Carmel River.

"We don't want people to be paying twice for the same studies—one by Cal Am and one by the Water Management District," Greenwood told the *Sun*.

Cal Am wants its customers to pay an estimated $1.58 million for the studies to see if the reservoir idea is feasible, whether it ever proceeds or not. Cal Am Vice President Larry Foy said the rate hike would add about 30 cents a month to the average residential water bill for 20 years.

The proposed off-stream reservoir, which would sit in a valley in the hills between Carmel Valley and the Monterey Peninsula Airport, would hold up to 23,000 acre feet of water. It would be filled by pumping water from the Carmel River to the higher reservoir site in years when heavy rainfall causes the river to flow into the sea.

Questions have been raised about where to get the electrical power to pump the water up into the reservoir. Some critics also have questioned whether the area might not be especially prone to earthquakes.

Landowners, including actor Clint Eastwood, have suggested they would donate the reservoir site in return for some of the water it would store.

Greenwood told the supervisors that the reservoir "may well be an answer to the Peninsula's water shortage, and it must be fairly evaluated." But he said a lot of questions need to be explored before this method of financing the feasibility studies is approved.

Greenwood also argued before the board that the usual practice of the PUC is not to grant rate increases for feasibility studies. "What if we grant them a rate increase to pay for $1.5 million in studies and halfway through they find the project is not viable?" Greenwood asked.

A 1912 REO visits Garland Park on a sunny Sunday morning. The auto was one of several driven over Laureles Grade by members of a Salinas collectors club. The name Reo was was formed from the initials of Randsom E. Olds, who founded a second car company after selling Oldsmobile to GM. *Sun photo by Stan Hall*

$500 Scholarship Available

The Mid Carmel Valley Fire District is accepting applications from high school graduates for a $500 educational scholarship for the 1990-91 year. The scholarship was established in memory of the late Jim Barrett, Mid Valley fire chief who was killed in a traffic accident in 1986. Applicants must be recommended by a member of the Mid Valley Fire Department, and applications are available at the fire station.

Cachagua Speaks Out on Proposed Drug Facility

The Cachagua Property Owners Association (CPOA) listened to a proposal for a $2 million, 50-person drug recovery center at its March meeting.

Larry Stone, director of the Community Human Services Project, presented a proposal to a group of about 35 CPOA members in an attempt to sound out the rural community's feelings on a recovery center proposed for a 105-acre property on Cachagua Road.

Secretary Nanci Lambert said, "A lot of people went to the meeting with negative thoughts and were definitely against it. But, I think they came away with an open mind. We need to research it. I think it will be a hot issue."

Ilene Crane-Franks, CPOA coordinator, opposed the proposal and said she thought it would put an extra strain on emergency medical services in Carmel Valley.

Ms. Crane-Franks, who worked for 10 years as a Psychiatric Technician in drug recovery, said she thought the whole concept of such a program was wrong for Cachagua.

"It is counterproductive to take people out of their environment to an ideal, pristine situation for recovery and then remove them from it," she said. "It won't work."

"People notoriously develop medical problems after they are detoxified," she said, adding that such centers screen people medically prior to their admittance but, typically, do not have a physician in residence.

Ms. Crane-Franks also complained that people enter such a recovery center voluntarily—15 to 20 percent of them as an alternative to going to jail—and there is no way to keep them there if they want to leave.The project envisioned one-month and six-month programs.

John Anderson, a CPOA member, said the property in question "is rather isolated. I don't think it would bother anyone, and basically I don't think we should be saying, 'Not in my backyard.'"

Ms. Lambert said the CPOA "is going to research it. We haven't formed an opinion yet."

Cachagua has a population of about 1,000, based on estimates given during creation of a master plan. The exact number of residents is expected to be defined more precisely in the 1990 Census.

The Community Human Services Project is a non-profit Joint Powers Agency representing 12 member organizations in Monterey County and supported in part by County funds. It operates a group home and a community counseling center in Monterey, a drug abuse program in Salinas and a drug recovery center and a community alcohol center in Seaside.

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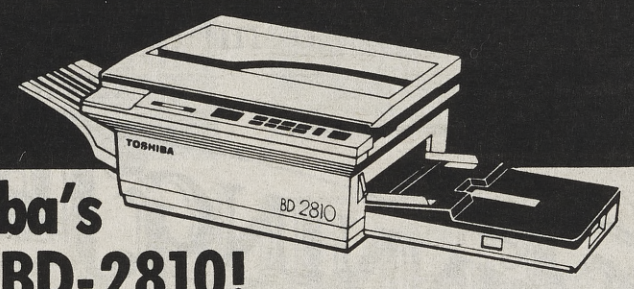

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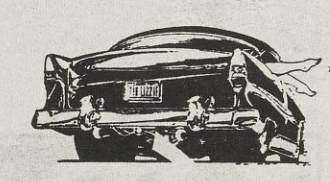

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Advisory Duties

would be reviewed and decided by the professional staff without committee recommendations. Critics of the cutback questioned how eliminating an initial citizen review could save the staff time and effort.

At the time of Ellis' initial announcement, Planning Commissioner Marit Evans said the suspension of committee duties was supposed to last for three months.

That it is being shortened underscores the storm of criticism that the decision prompted. All the advisory committees in the Carmel-Carmel Valley-Peninsula area wrote letters of protest. One, Highlands-Bixby, circulated a petition which was signed by about 100 residents along the South Coast.

Ellis said the Planning Department is continuing to try to fill the vacancies on its professional staff. In addition to two new planners who were hired earlier, he said four were interviewed and offered positions March 15, with three of them accepting the jobs.

Salaries for planning positions range from $1,976 to $2,448 a month for a starting position, Ellis said. Senior planners earn from $2,788 to $3,454 monthly, he said.

Continued from front page

"It's been unfortunate to lose the people that we have," Ellis said. "But that's just the way it goes."

Even as Ellis was speaking with the *Sun*, it became known that Joel R. Panzer, a senior planner, was leaving the department at the end of the month to join the law firm of Noland Hamerly Etienne and Hass in Salinas. The firm frequently represents developers and builders.

Panzer told the *Sun* he was making the job change because he saw it as a professional advancement opportunity.

Asked what his duties would be at the firm, Panzer said: "Some of the same sorts of things that I've been doing, but from the other side of the counter."

He said he expected to take over many of the duties in the planning process that previously have been handled by Tony Lombardo, a partner in the firm.

Panzer worked on a number of Carmel Valley projects in the four years he was with the Planning Department.

Carmel Gym Sports

The Carmel-by-the-Sea Recreation Department hosts adult open gym sports at the Carmel Middle School on Carmel Valley Road four nights a week.

Volleyball is scheduled Monday and Wednesday from 7 to 9:30 p.m. and basketball on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. Both programs offer adults an evening of drop-in recreation ball for a fee of $1. Call 626-1255.

NEW BABIES

Jeffrey David, son, born to **Pam** and **Dave Mrozinski,** Feb. 8, Barrington, IL.

Angelo Valentino, son, born to **Georgene Louise Rugg** and **Matthew Joseph Cervelli**, Feb. 14, Carmel Valley.

Madelyn Vivia, daughter, born to **Libby** and **Greg McMenamin,** Feb. 19, Pacific Grove.

Devon Thomas, son, born to **Alice** and **Richard McGrath**, Feb. 21, Carmel Valley.

Tyler, son, born to **Kelly** and **Tom Barnes,** Feb. 26, San Jose.

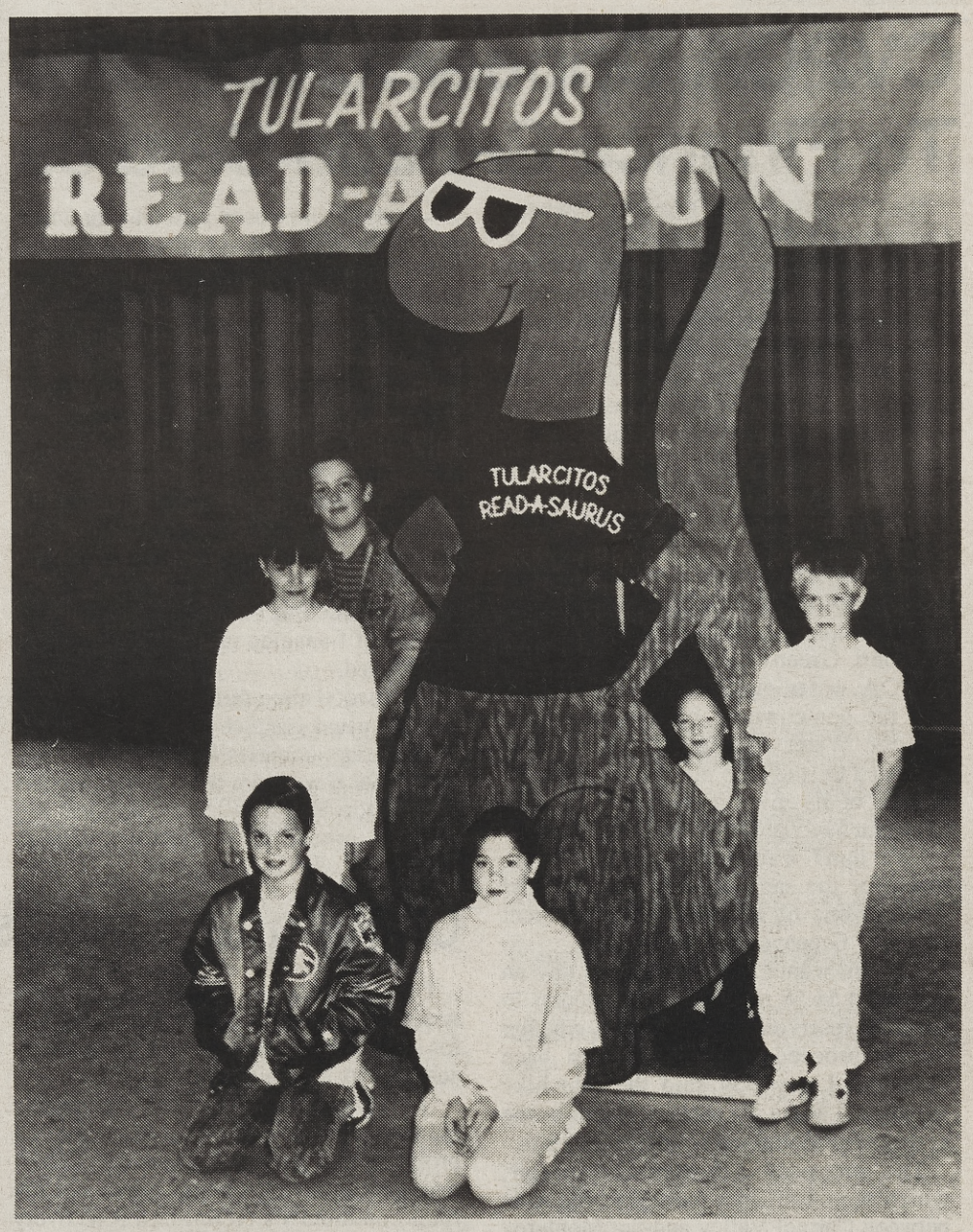
Kathryn Helen, daughter, born to **Jennifer** and **Stephen Barkley**, Feb. 27, Pacific Grove.

Megan Marie, daughter, born to **Holly** and **Dave Van Dore,** Mar. 4, Boulder, CO.

Mammography Center Gets Certification

The Mammography Center of Monterey has received certification by the American College of Radiology, becoming the only facility in the Salinas-Monterey area to receive the accreditation, according to Program Director Mary Lou Catania, R.N.

The American College of Radiology has a voluntary program for accreditation of mammography under which the facility, personnel qualifications, image quality of films and radiation dose are reviewed and evaluated by a panel of judges. To date it has accredited about 1,100 of the 8,000 mammography facilities in the nation.



FIVE BOOKS PER STUDENT is the goal of Tularcitos School's first-ever Read-A-Thon, being held during the month of March. It is sponsored by the Parent's Club to help raise money for field trips, the computer lab and other enrichments. Shown above are students of the month trying to guess exactly how many books will be read. Kneeling are Jesse Snow, left, and Celina Liesko, right. Standing are Bernadette Chiappe and Josh Campbell, left, and Kasey Kucher, right. Looking through the hole in the dinosaur is Erin Miller. *Sun photo by John Anderson*

PANCAKES & BASEBALL!

Carmel Youth Baseball's Annual Pancake Breakfast & Opening Day Ceremonies

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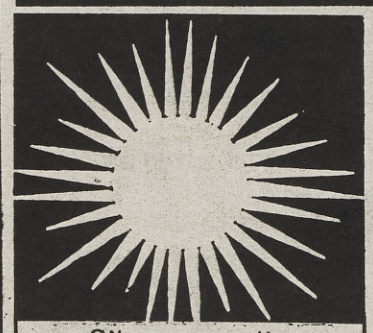

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Native Plants for Your Garden

By Marjorie Schmidt

A Fragrant Shrub for Summer Color

By Marjorie Schmidt

Woolly blue-curls *(Trichostema lanatum)* is one of California's prime summer flowering shrubs, having distinctive form and intense blue flower color. It is a many-branched evergreen shrub, 3 to 5 feet in height, with narrow, yellow-green leaves with a minty or spicy fragrance when crushed. Blue-purple, pink or whitish hairs form a woolly covering over the upper stems. This velvety wool sets off the brilliant blue of the tubular flowers with their arching, exserted stamens.

Care in the garden. Woolly blue-curls requires full sun, lean, well-drained soil and very little water once established. Water deeply in the first year, but leave dry thereafter. In clay soils which tend to hold water, plants are apt to be short lived unless thorough drainage is provided. Woolly blue-curls flowers from mid-spring into summer, and often intermittently into autumn.

Propagation. This colorful shrub may be propagated from seed or from cuttings. From a mature plant, take semi-hard cuttings; side shoots, dip in rooting hormone and place in a mixture of sand and peat until roots are formed. Plant into larger pots until roots are well established and you are ready to plant them out. All seed is not viable; to test, place a quantity of seed in a vessel of water. Those which float are non-viable and should be discarded. Take the remaining, cold stratify for three months, and plant into small pots as above.

Companions. Many native perennials, shrubs and: bulbs have similar cultural requirements and will complement the fuzzy leaves and brilliant flowers of woolly blue-curls. Several penstemons, including the tall *Penstemon spectabilis* with its open panicles of vivid blue flowers and the dark, rose-colored *P. clevelandii* will enhance the colors of woolly blue-curls. The California brodiaea *(Brodiaea californica)* with its umbels of lilac bells is another choice companion. Background shrubs might be species of squawbush *(Rhus)*, coffeeberry *(Rhamnus)*, ceanothus *(Ceanothus)* and summer holly *(Comarostaphylos diversifolia)*. Pockets of annuals, such as Phacelia minor scattered in mid-spring will make a carpet of rich, dark blue. A patch of pink godetias will also add color to this rich flowering border.

Marjorie Schmidt, a well-known native plant gardener, is the author of Growing California Native Plants *(UC Press 1980). For reprints of this article, information on sources of native plant materials or on membership in the California Native Plant Society, write to CNPS, 909 12th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; telephone 916-447-CNPS. For local information, call 659-2528.*

Park Parking Spruced Up

The parking lot at Garland Ranch regional park in the Valley is being re-landscaped, with stunted pine trees being removed and replaced with drought-tolerant native shrubs. The western part of the parking lot will be redone this spring and the remainder in fiscal year 1991.

What's Blooming

Leptospermum *(L. Scoparium)* Tea Tree. This native of Australia and New Zealand, an evergreen shrub or groundcover , is a useful landscaping plant year round. In spring, it is brilliant with small rosy pink, white or red flowers along the stem. The flowers grow between short needlelike leaves on woody branches. Established plants are highly drought tolerant, need good soil drainage and sun and thrive near the ocean. According to the Sunset New Western Garden Book, it is called "tea tree" because Captain Cook brewed the leaves into tea to prevent scurvy among his crew.

Sun Photo by Stan Hall

Valley of the Flowers Show Set for May 6

"The Valley of the Flowers" is the theme for the 1990 flower show sponsored by the Carmel Valley Garden Association.

The popular biennial event will be held May 6 at the Hidden Valley Music Center on Carmel Valley Road at Ford Road just west of Carmel Valley Village.

General Chairman Bill Marshall said all entries must be received at Hidden Valley between 8 and 11 a.m. May 5. the public is urged to participate and will have an opportunity to vote for the Show Favorite which will receive a grand prize. Proceeds from the show will be donated to Carmel Valley organizations that enhance the quality of life in the area.

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VISA UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

Brush Strokes *The Art Scene*

Renee Eaton at Carmel Valley Manor
Jim Casteel and Jef Workman in Seaside

By Anita DeCarlo

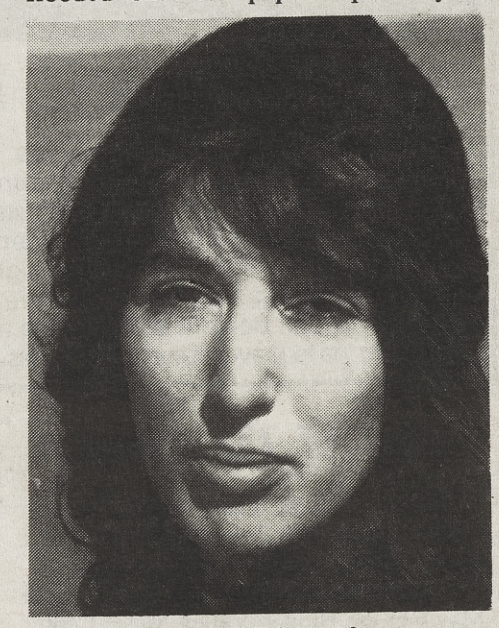
For a relatively small area, the Monterey Peninsula really does have a lot of wall for art space—even without counting the wall-to-wall commercial galleries in Carmel— and these are the places the newer and more innovative artists are surfacing. This week I am sending you to two places.

If you are enamored of watercolor or are a watercolorist—in any style—make time to see Renee Eaton's watercolors at Carmel Valley Manor. She is a watercolorists's watercolorist. She has explored the medium and plumbed its depths for the sake of the exploration and the knowledge gained in order then to be able to produce paintings such as you will see in the show. A lot of what these paintings are about is the sheer excitement with the facility she has gained in the medium. Subject is actually secondary and more often than not evolves out of the process.

The first painting you will see as you enter is "Innerspace," a tour de force of transparent glazes that layer space and weave in and out of edges, from the infinity of the velvety liquid black through varying levels of density to the yellow foreground. Her paper whites are free floating, tied only once by the edge of the rectangle. The upshot is an innercranial peek! A good introduction to a show of very personal work.

"Tree Bark" is another painting that earned its title after the fact. What it is is the excitement of the "found object," the found object being the naturally occurring texturalization that results from the wet into wet mix of transparent and opaque pigments.

"Japanese Teapot" and "Orange Flowerpot," on the other hand, began with the inspiration of these objects, but they are at two extremes of the watercolor pole. "Teapot" is the intellectual beauty of the minimal statement: the white of the paper is the teapot, a hieroglyphic shape created by corresponding single wash in the negative: atop the teapot is a rich, soft red, one application. "Flowerpot" is a compilation of glazes, a very sensual play of color and texture, form and edge. The purples and greens of the flowers and leaves have been flooded onto the paper repeatedly to



ANITA DECARLO

heighten the color to an almost neon luminosity and to join softly to the clay pot. The pot contrasts with a cleanly glazed edge, double glazed to give a glimmer of light which not only gives the pot solidity but also the aesthetic strength to support the rich upper half.

"African Idol" is as flat as a silk tapestry. The rich darks over the silky glazes produce the idol which is brushstroked into form. Again, the contrast in treatment and effect is exciting.

The important thing for you to be observing is this marvelous play of contrasts that Eaton achieves in all her paintings. By playing the contrasts in the nature of watercolor itself as well as basic aesthetic tenets, the effect is the tension of contrast, the push-pull of space.

"Korean Vase" becomes a good "lesson" in this: velvety red opaque negative, dark; the vase transparent, airy, the positive shape, light. She has created an insoluble, in effect, tug of war in space. The negative becomes near and the positive recedes.

"The Birth of Venus" and "Elaine in the Park" are two similarly handled paintings attempting to achieve the positive out of the negative. Actually, the negatives are the painted areas but because of the hard edges the objects recede and become negatives.

There is not only an Eastern approach to aesthetical space but a recurrent Eastern theme: a series of three—"Cameras," "Kabuki Actors," and "The Floating World"—are the most deft in spatial control; more adventure into the range of color intensity and value, texture and rest. Take time to absorb the possibilities.

Then take another day for Seaside City Hall. Painter Jim Casteel and sculptor Jef Workman show very well together. Their work is not just complementary, it is symbiotic! Each showing alone would not have the impact of their work together. Workman's would be too playful and Casteel's staid. The brilliance of the sculpture enhances the quieter color of the paintings; the muted paintings subdue the clash of too much undissipated brilliance in close proximity.

At the same time there are many similarities. They all but "hold hands" across the hall: texture—all of Casteel's paintings in the area near the sculpture cases want to be touched and all the sculptures are more than three dimensional objects—their surfaces are three dimensional, furry or snake-slick or matte like a turtle shell. They all want to be held like favored toys that brought emotional sustenance when it was that easy to get. Workman reawakens then satisfies the child in us.

Casteel's work inspires a more adult emotion with an intellectual flavor. He calls his paintings carvings. That has a good hands on sound, and he does—have his hands in it, building with paint on blank modelling clay covered with black gesso. Certainly gives his paint—acrylic, house paint, what have you—a subtle depth. I like the group on the first wall in particular, mauves and sea greens and blues in carved valleys catching shadows, some glimmers of iridescence. Yes, they want to be touched and they change as you move in front of them. The feeling is that of standing on the shore, solitary, end of day, sand, salt wet.

The group of paintings most distant from the sculptures is distant—period—a horse of another hue entirely. They are also Jim Casteel's but produced earlier in a different frame of reference, in pursuit of a different sort of muse. Perhaps, the Eastern muse. "A Rumi Poem and Its Shadow," light and graphic: "Formal Statement," a large calligraphy and subtle space; the same for "Adrift in Connie's Room" but with an impasto chop. The concerns are more intellectual than his carvings. There is a deft two-dimensional spatial control, conscious negatives, deliberate color for space and weight reminiscent of watercolor. Renee Eaton's in particular. Hmm, start here after there.

Valley Artist on Display

Wildlife artist Lesley Harrison of Carmel Valley has some of her limited edition prints on display at Gallery Framing at Valley Hills Shopping Center on Carmel Valley Road.

Ms. Harrison, an equestrian and animal-lover, does pastels of mountain lions, snow leopards, bobcats, foxes, wolves, coyotes, raccoons, mountain sheep and swans. She says she may spend up to 10 hours or more working on a single square inch of paper.

Dutch Sculptor Debuts

Sculpture House & Gardens on Highway 1 in Carmel Highlands will feature the American debut of Dutch sculptor Evert van Hemert April 8 to May 8. Born in Haarlem, The Netherlands in 1952, van Hemert works in oil and mixed media on paper and canvas and also does sculptures of horses and bulls. The exhibit will open with a reception from 1 to 4 p.m., April 8.

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ART HAPPENINGS

John Roby, Salinas artist and teacher, will demonstrate acrylic painting techniques on how to use animals and people in landscape settings at the general meeting of the Central Coast Art Association, Room 6, Sunset Center, 7:30 p.m., March 26.

Miquelin and Alexis Dominguez, sons of Carmel Valley artist Miguel Dominguez,will have a joint exhibit of watercolors on display 9 to 5 p.m. daily April 1-27, Carmel Valley Manor Hallway Gallery.

A Display of Sculpture by Jim Gillespie opens April 6, 7-9 p.m. Portofino's, 620 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove.

Early Americana Antiques collector and sculptor Dick Marcus will discuss the "Found Objects Show," at its opening 2-5 p.m., March 24, The Village Gallery, 12 Delfino Place, Carmel Valley.

Community Alcohol Center, 1001 Elm Ave., Seaside will sponsor Women's History in Art at a reception, 2-4 p.m., April 1.

Edna Bullock will deliver a presentation on the work of her late husband, photographer Wynn Bullock, at Artists Equity Central Coast Chapter meeting, 7:30 p.m., April 2, Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art.

An exhibit of new works by resident artists Michie Long, Melissa Lofton, Renee McClue, Helen Goldstein, Jane Hellesoe-Henom and Mary Moore, among others, is open through April 1 at Gallery One at the Village Shops near River Inn, Big Sur, 667-2600.

Edward Norton Ward, an elected member of the Carmel Art Association, will sign his new book, "First Impressions," at an exhibit of his paintings, 4-6 p.m., April 15, Thunderbird Bookshop, The Barnyard.

Artist Jay Campbell opens a one man show with a 6:30-8:30 p.m. reception March 23, at Gallery Seven, 205 17th St., Pacific Grove.

Murphy Home Data Sought

The Carmel Historical Survey would like to hear from past and present owners of homes built by M. J. Murphy in Carmel, Carmel Valley and surrounding areas.

"Documenting the master builder's work and variety of residence styles is important to the survey" of historical houses now being conducted, said Sharon Lawrence.

She said photos of his houses and reminisences of Murphy would be welcomed by the survey. Further information may be obtained by telephoning 625-5715 or 625-0818.

Murphy built hundreds of homes in the region between 1902 and the early '40s when he retired. He died in 1959.

"It was M. J. Murphy who designed and constructed more sturdy, comfortable residences in Carmel than any other person," Ms. Lawrence said. "His notable ability to design in the styles of the times, eye for detail and his pride in his work were the major contributing factors in establishing the look and character of the city."

Murphy's first house, constructed in 1902, still is standing on the west side of Mission Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenues. Efforts are underway to save the tiny, wooden cottage, and Ms. Lawrence said donations for the preservation and restoration of the "First Murphy" should be sent to 3206 Serra Avenue, Carmel, 93923.

Eve Tartar Exhibit Opens Friday

Carmel Valley's Eve Tartar is opening the largest exhibition of her art with a reception Friday, March 23, at Carmel Mission Inn on Rio Road.

Fifty collage-constructions by this widely-acclaimed artist will be on display following the 5:30 to 7 p.m. reception. The 80-year-old artist, who has been painting for 60 years, says this exhibit shows her "without disguise, risking your response to my most solitary and exhilarating work."

In 1986, Ms. Tartar had a show of 20 new works around the theme of the "Cosmic Egg" at the Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art's Maurine Coburn gallery. The same year she created a 20 x 30-foot, massive sculpture, called "Genesis" for installation in the Spindrift Inn on Cannery Row.

Ms. Tartar was commissioned to do 15 three-dimensional paper constructions for the Portola House at The Lodge at Pebble Beach in 1983. Eight of her works also hang in the Fremont House there.

Born in New York, she moved to Carmel Valley in 1962 with her husband, Harper Brown, a creative writing teacher. They live in the Robles del Rio area.

Salinas Valley Coloring Contest for All Ages

Deadline for the annual coloring contest at the 1990 Salinas Valley Fair is April 20.

This year the popular event features a drawing of a saddle, hat and rope over a fence, with a rainbow, hills and flowers in the background. Prizes for coloring the poster total nearly $600 in categories covering pre-school children to persons over 62 and special education students. Posters will be judged April 25 and will be on display at the fair May 16-20.

A Photographic Look At the 20th Century

An exhibition by 32 photographers chronicling life in the 20th century will open in the Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art's Asian Gallery March 31 through June 24.

Among photographers represented in the black and white exhibition are Berenice Abbott, Robert Capa, Henry Cartier-Bresson and Andre Kertesz. The works are from the BankAmerica Corporate Art Collection.

ANCIENT FOREST QUILT, created by 10 members of the Mono Lake Quilters of Berkeley.

Ancient Forest Quilt Will Help Save Virgin Forests

The Ancient Forest Quilt, created by 10 women to help raise funds to preserve old-growth forests, will be on exhibit at GWS Galleries on Carmel Rancho Lane the first two weeks of April.

Making its first appearance in Monterey County, the 75-by-95-inch quilt will be exhibited around the state until a drawing June 23 in a redwood grove. The $2 tickets are available at GWS and the Sierra Club Book Store in Carmel.

A year in the making, the quilt has three major panels and 10 smaller ones. It was created by the Mono Lake Quilters of Berkeley to aid efforts by the Sierra Club and the Environmental Protection Information Center to save ancient forests from logging.

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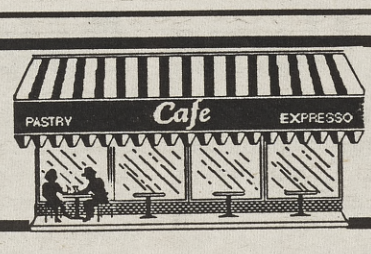
Let's Eat Out!



Silver Jones

From the cheerful brick patio with its colorful umbrellas to the Persian, Indian and Mayan rugs hanging on the walls and covering the light hardwood floors, Silver Jones is an inviting restaurant. Proprietors Michael Jones and Jack Silver are almost always at the door with big smiles to welcome you inside where logs crackle in the fireplace and sprightly waitresses in crisp white shirts and ties bustle around.

You feel as if you are entering an elegant adobe home with pillars and arches dividing the low-ceilinged room into inviting mini-dining areas for more privacy and a touch less noise. But this popular local eatery is noisy with the sheer enthusiasm of the diners, aided and abetted by Jones and company who like nothing better than to don crazy hats and sing "Happy Birthday" when called upon.

The food is also fun. When you walk in be sure to take note of the pizza chef by the door who uses exciting combinations to produce appetizers in a real pizza oven. The crust is unbelievably tender inside, crisp on the outside. And one creation, the C.H. (California Highway) pizza, is a wonderful demonstration of how to build a pizza without any cheese. It consists of delicate smoked ham, carmelized onions, black olives, fresh tomatos and fresh oregano, thyme and marjoram.

The selections are so varied that you need to study the menu and decide whether to have appetizers, pizza, soup, salad, pasta or a combination, or just an entree and dessert.

Fro example, the calamari rings a la Rocco with Cajun spices is totally unlike any other calamari presentation I've ever eaten and is also one of the hottest dishes I've ever had anywhere. Michael's Carmel Valley (he lives in Carmel Valley Village) smoked salmon is also a good choice if you decide on the more traditional appetizers instead of sampling the pizza which is enough for two or three to share as a first course or one person to enjoy as an entree.

My trouble is choosing. The chilled fresh tomato and sweet pepper soup is so good—a light, smooth, peppery version of gazpacho: but so are the Caesar Salad and the Earthbound Farms organic salad greens. In fact, Silver Jones does about the best salad around and if you go for lunch, you will be truly spoiled for choice between such treats as a towering chicken salad tostada, wild rice salad with forest mushrooms and roasted vegetables, tiny shrimp on greens salad, Shanghai chicken salad or penne pasta salad with razor-thin smoked salmon and vegetables.

Evening entrees range from tournedo chasseur with mushroom duxelle—an extremely rich dish with the filet mignon served on a bed of chanterelles mushrooms that have been reduced to the very essence of mushroom and bathed in a buttery bearnaise sauce—to Pacific salmon with champagne, fennel and butter.

Or, you can have pasta which is done well here. I am partial to the linguini with rock shrimp and sea scallops with fresh tomatoes and tangy Greek olives, and My Friend likes the penne pasta pancetta with eggplant and sundried tomatoes.

Silver Jones offers a separate dessert menu of which two of the items are house made: a rich bread pudding full of raisins served with a sugary Jack Daniels sauce and Bartlett pears poached in Beaujolais with a cinnamon creme anglaise. The pear was beautifully poached to a rosy red on a recent visit but the creme anglaise tasted starchy, the only minor flaw, however, in a series of enjoyable visits.

ARCHES provide intimate dining areas at Silver Jones

Prices range from $4.95 to $7.25 for appetizers; $6.95 to $7.75 for pizza; $3.75 for soup; $3.95 to $7.25 for salad; $12.95 to $16.95 for entrees; $11.95 to $14.25 for pasta; and $2.50 to $4.50 for dessert.

Wine and beer are available.

Silver Jones Restaurant, The Barnyard. 624-5200.

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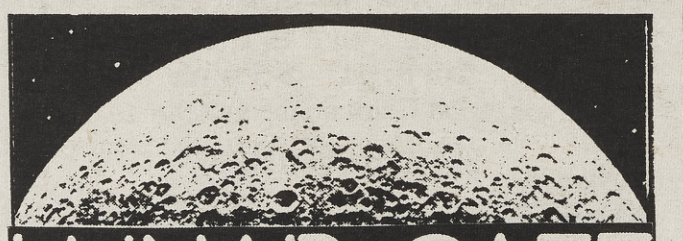
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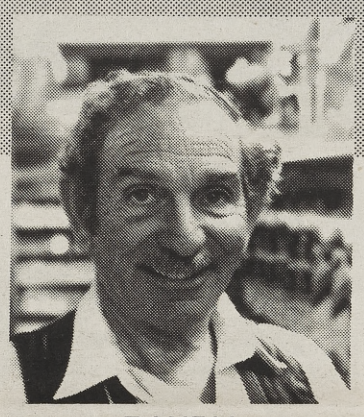

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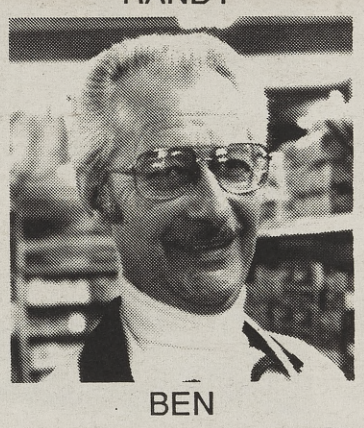

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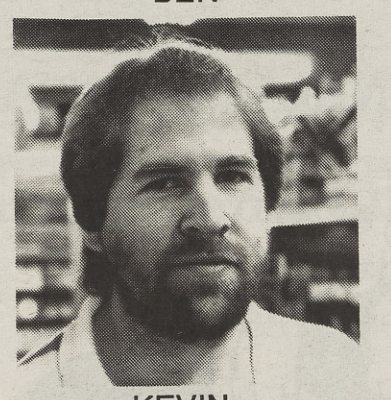

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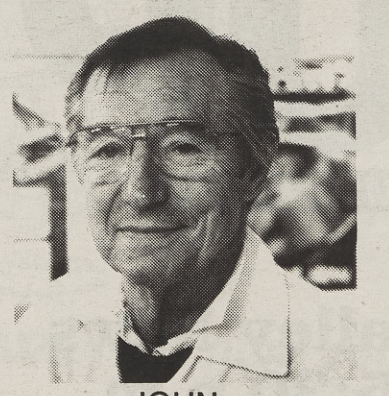

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Chief Alexander Onesimo

This carved, wooden indian, named for the last of the Costanoan Indians, proudly stands outside Carmel Valley Market.

Chief O-NEE, as he was known, was born in Robinson Canyon more than 100 years ago. He died July 2, 1979.

This carving was done near Mt. Rainier, Wash., in 1976, and it was shipped to the market in 1977. Because of the carving, many Village youngsters call Randy Randazzo's store "The Indian Market."

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New Owners Plan Development of Bea

CASA GRANDE, THE MAIN HOUSE, at Rancho San Carlos (above) faces south with a view of Hall's Mountain. The rambling house was built in the 1920's on the San Francisquito Flats. It includes a 1-1/2 story great room with a stone fireplace built in the English Gothic style. The room has an enormous picture window looking north over the former polo fields created in the 1930's. The kitchen and numerous bathrooms are virtually in their original state. The winding Rancho San Carlos Road has several points which look across the rolling mountains to the ocean (right, above). This view looks through the valley to Monastery Beach. One of the towering white oaks (right) on the manicured lawns outside the main house.

A technical team is being assembled by Pacific Union Co., new owners of the 20,000-acre Rancho San Carlos, to respond to an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that coincidentally was issued by Monterey County a week after the sale closed. Deadline for response is April 9.

"Our biggest concern is that we have up–to–date information," said spokesperson Judith Martin. "Some of the information in the EIR is sketchy or old."

Peter Stocker, founder and chairman of the company, held a two-day planning session with his team members at the ranch a week ago. He and one of his partners, Sandy Tatum, a former president of the PGA, took the opportunity to personally walk off some of the holes they believe could be developed for a golf course.

"I want to make this the best and most exclusive development in the country," Stocker told the *Sun* after a tour of the land.

The company plans to do some repairs to La Casa Grande, the main house on the property, so it can be used as a temporary headquarters pending development of the spectacular property. Stocker told the *Sun*

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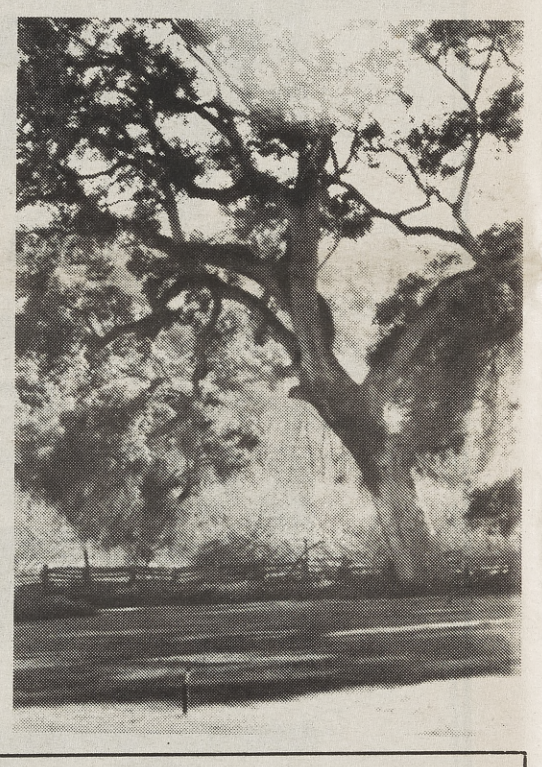

Story & Photos
By
Isabelle Hall

Acre Price Not Relevant

With its record price of $70 million, Rancho San Carlos cost the Pacific Union Co. of San Francisco $3,500 an acre.

But knowledgeable Valley Realtors said the per-acre price is not really relevant any more and hasn't been for several years.

"With all the restrictions and constraints on development in the area, land prices are basically determined by what can you realistically expect to do with it once you own it," explained one broker. "Obviously, giving $3,500 an acre for land that only can be used for grazing isn't a brilliant investment—not even when cattle prices are good."

In terms of dollars, the sale of Rancho San Carlos by the family estate of Arthur C. Oppenheimer was the largest in Monterey County history. The 20,000-acre ranch, which lies south of and roughly parallel to the Valley, also is one of the largest privately-owned properties left in the County.

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Beautiful Rancho San Carlos

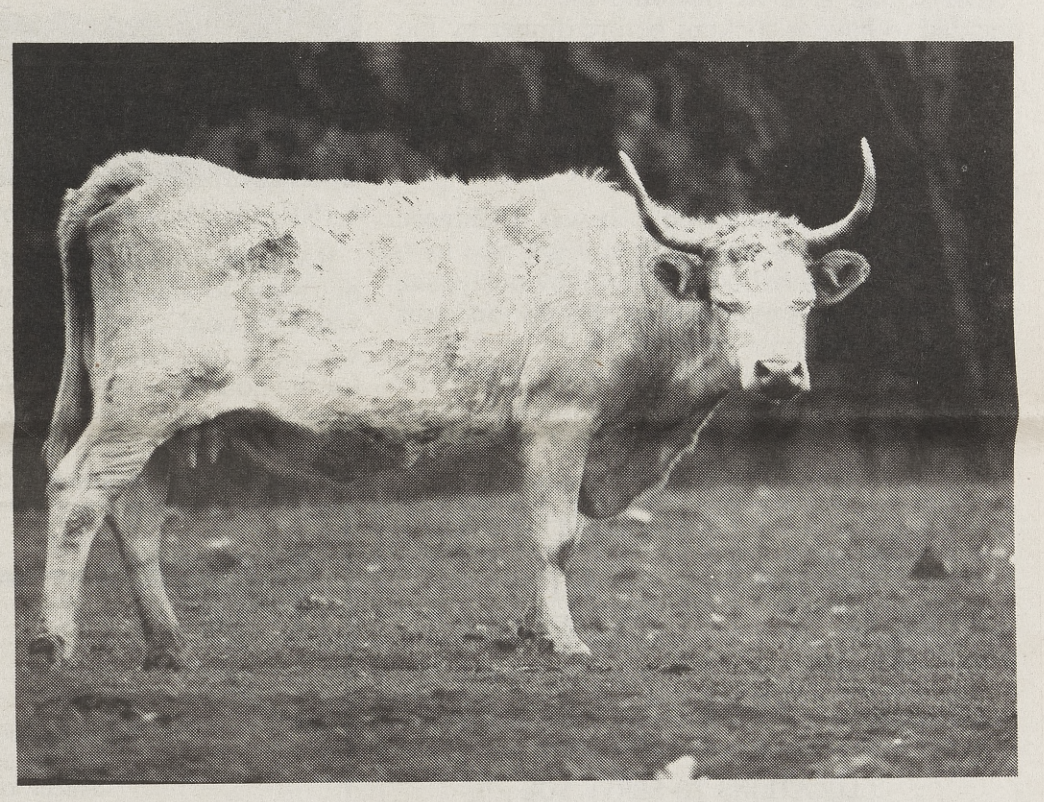
his initial plans called for up to 360 residences, two golf courses, extensive equestrian facilities and a 140-room conference center. The company owns a similar, though infinitely smaller, resort-development in the Napa Valley.

The EIR, ordered in 1987 after a court fight, concluded that the least intrusive housing development on the $70 million ranch would be 125 cluster units and a 200-room hotel, built as close as possible to such existing developments as Quail Lodge and Rancho Canada.

Extreme local interest in the vast ranch which parallels Carmel Valley to the south was demonstrated last week at a fund-raising auction for the Robert Louis Stevenson School.

"We donated a picnic on the ranch as one of the prizes," Ms. Martin said." And, it brought the amazing price of $8,700."

She said the picnic—which will probably be Tex-Mex or maybe a boar barbecue—was purchased by a group that included Tim Hall and Fred Vogel who have children at the school and own farms in Carmel Valley.



THE ENCHANTED FOREST, (above), a beautiful grove of live oak draped with moss, one of the more tranquil meadows at Rancho San Carlos through which the road meanders. (Below), a range cow with a clear longhorn heritage chews her cud and eyes the camera with only slight suspicion. A beautiful white oak shades the guest house or "cottage" (below left) built next to the Casa Grande and remodeled at one time by one of the Oppenheimer Family members.

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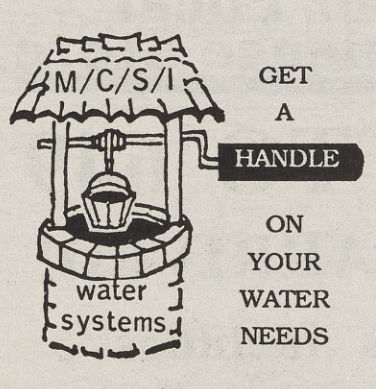

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Out and About

By Isabelle Hall

What is it about a balloon that brings out the child in us? Is it simply the joy of seeing a sphere able to float free and rise as high as the air will carry it—the sheer joy of flying?

Whatever, a balloon brings joy to children and adults alike. You find yourself smiling at the sight of balloons at a birthday party or a parade or even hot air balloons with people actually riding in a basket underneath the jets of fire that lift them. How could anybody do that? How, indeed.

A few years ago, we decided to meet our daughter in California for Christmas at the Sonoma Mission Inn. It would be the first time we had ever celebrated this intimate family holiday away from home, and we all wanted to make it as festive as possible, including the excitement of exchanging gifts.

I have never ceased to be amazed at the wonderful gifts Cathy has given me since the time she was just eight. Somehow or other she managed to save $6.95 that year to buy me a wristwatch at the grocery store opposite our apartment building in Cambridge, Mass., the only store she could go to by herself. I was so proud of that Timex I wore it for years, long after I could afford a better watch.

Christmas Eve in Sonoma the three of us decided to have a cocktail before dinner by the roaring fire in the huge hotel living room to carry out our little tradition of opening one gift that night. When you are as small a family as we are, these little traditions seem to grow in importance every year.

Her gift to us was a riddle. It was a Chinese food carryout box—the kind you get rice in—with a bright red balloon inside. Obviously, she had spent a long time planning this one and was very excited about the surprise.

I couldn't figure it out but, her dad—who adores riddles, crossword puzzles, word games of any kind—took a few wrong guesses then laughed: "It's a hot air balloon."

And, it was. Cathy had really saved up her money this time--about $650 of it to buy the three of us a Christmas morning ride over the Napa Valley in a hot air balloon. She gave it to us Christmas Eve so we would be sure to be prepared for her 5 a.m. wakeup call.

She had learned all about hot air ballooning while working in the Palm Springs area and made the Napa reservations months earlier. You have to call ahead at 4:30 a.m. to check on the weather, and if it is a "go," you head for the staging area.

A HOT-AIR BALLOON rises over the Napa Valley. *Sun photo by Stan Hall.*

It was the middle of the night when she called our room to announce the green light was on. It was very cold so we put on all the warm clothes we could find and headed out into the frosty air for the hour-long drive to Yountville in the adjacent Napa Valley. We met at a motel until everyone was assembled and then traveled by van to the takeoff area behind a shopping mall.

The activity seemed frenetic. People were running everywhere to lay out two enormous balloons and start to pump them up with air using huge fans powered by lawn mower engines. Once the balloon was partly filled, they shot huge balls of fire into its innards to begin to make it stand up straight.

What looked like an extremely small wicker basket lay on the ground at the bottom of one vividly striped balloon which sprawled like a broken doll on the ground. It looked so tiny. I kept counting all the people trying to figure out how they expected to get us in two little baskets. Not exactly being thrilled with heights in the first place, my trepidation began to grow. Did I really want to go up in the dark sky in a *balloon?*

Of course, I did. How could I disappoint my only child, my grown child who wanted to take her mother up in that contraption?

"Are you scared?" she asked. "What do you think," I retorted. Being scared made it all the more fun, no doubt. Stan announced we were both being silly.

After what seemed an eternity of waiting in the cold, the first balloon was filled with seven passengers and a pilot and lifted into the sky precisely at sunrise--about 7:18 a.m. as I recall. They cannot take off until sunrise under federal aviation regulations, we were told.

The three of us, two men and a boy and the

Continued on page 16

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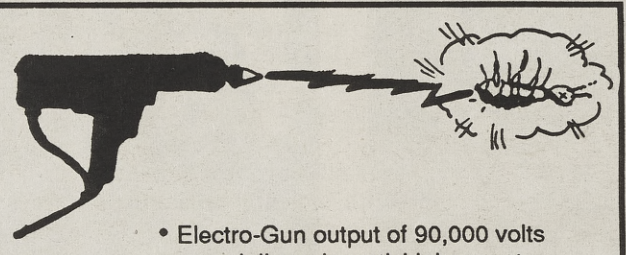

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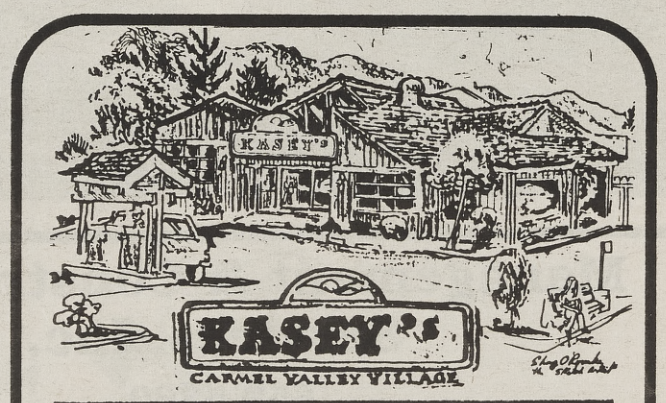

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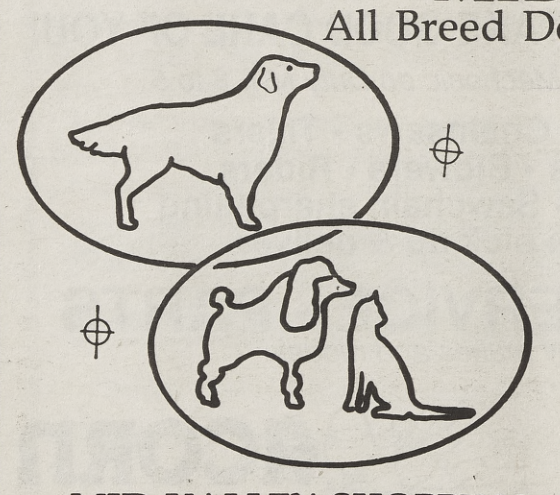

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Our Animal Friends

By Araby Colton

Jimmie

It was a cold January morning when I went out to Frances on her nest. I stopped, not too close, so as not to alarm her, and saw, almost unbelieving, a tiny something against her full-feathered breast. I stood motionless then, knowing that it was a baby duck.

Frances had sat on that unprotected mound for three months, through rain and wind. The great walls of tumbleweed in which she had first made a nest, thinking herself protected and safe, had betrayed her. One by one they had blown away, rolling off across the field, coming up against a far fence.

The rain had beaten down on her, the wind had kept her feathers ruffled. At the end of the 28 days she had walked quietly away from her first setting, 12 rotten dried-up eggs.

We got her some eggs from our duck lady. This clutch was also a failure. Frances sat as patiently, as faithfully as she had the first time. This time she waited an extra day before leaving her cold nest.

The duck lady insisted on giving us a second clutch of eggs. The weather, she thought, might have caused the first failure.

Frances settled down for the third time, spreading her feathers to cover the eggs, hissing at our timid approaches as furiously as ever. For another 28 days she sat, only leaving to wet her feathers in the baby's bathtub we put by her side.

The duckling, a bit of fluff not much bigger than my thumb, with a beautiful dark bill, and big, bright eyes, burrowed in under Frances, came out, and climbed up on her back, slid down her side, and disappeared under her breast. Frances sat motionless, her eyes wide and bright, paying her baby no heed, watching the surrounding world. I ran to the house to announce the news.

Frances continued to sit on the rest of the eggs for a full day, then led her one child to the pond. She was an unusually big Mallard, and she and the tiny duckling were like a huge ocean liner accompanied by a tug. She stayed in the water for at least half an hour, in the cold January weather. She carefully preened her feathers, then stalked around the garden, picking up bits of food, with her baby scrambling to stay with her.

We had to throw all the other eggs away. Frances had sat for three months for one duckling. We named him James, or Jimmie.

Our duck expert advised taking him away from his mother and raising him under an electric light. She said ducks are poor mothers, that she would keep him in the water too much, that he would get chilled, and probably die.

That night we took him from Frances, and put him in a basket, with a light bulb suspended above it. He was an Indian Runner, not a Mallard. Long and slender, he stood up high, and beat his tiny inch-square wings. Frances, outside, was frantic. She raced back and forth, from the pond to her barren nest, quacking loudly. The next morning I gave Jimmie back to his mother. She had waited too long, endured too much, to lose her child now.

Frances was a splendid mother. She and her child were inseparable. In and out of the water, eating, sleeping, he was so close as to seem a part of her. He flourished and grew, eventually out in front of her much of the time. Indian Runners are very fast; Frances had to waddle her best to keep up with him. He became the most beautiful Indian Runner I had ever seen, tall, dignified, the most exquisite browns and beiges, his dark head towering over the Mallards. He was truly a James, not a Jimmie, a formal, gentle, lordly creature.

And now he is gone. One night I forgot to put the ducks in the barn; in the morning we found four little islands of soft feathers and down, in the pasture, none of them the browns and beiges of Jimmie. Could he have escaped whatever creatures attacked in the night?

I scanned the surrounding fields. I listened. I put up a notice on the grocery store bulletin board, offering a reward for information about stray ducks. I couldn't bear to think about him.

MALLARDS enjoy a splash-along on the Carmel River. *Sun photo by Stan Hall*

SPCA Says Leave Seal Pups Alone

The SPCA of Monterey County, noting that harbor seal pupping season runs from March through May along the coast, said would-be rescuers of the newborn mammals usually do more harm than good.

"Well intentioned 'rescuers' of these pups are in fact not helping but permanently separating a mother from her helpless pup," the SPCA said in a news release.

It said people finding pups on the beach should telephone the SPCA and stay away from the pup and out of sight of the mother, which is more than likely fishing temporarily. The group said dogs and other people also should be kept away from the newborn pup.

If the mother has not returned after several hours, the SPCA should be telephoned again for further instructions. The SPCA's telephone number is 373-2631 or 422-4721.

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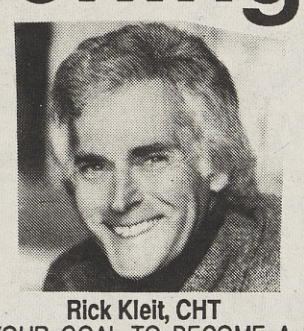

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Rick Kleit, certified hypnotherapist, can be heard each week on KFOX radio, 93.5 FM, Los Angeles. His private practice is in Westwood, CA.

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Out And About

Continued from page 14

other pilot got into the second little basket. It seemed so wobbly, so fragile, and then the pilot yanked the cord tied to the gas valve, and this incredible ball of flame shot into the balloon just above our heads with a loud whoosh. Slowly, we began to wiggle and wobble our way aloft.

By now, the first balloon was far ahead, and this provided a wonderful chance to take photographs. We got some of our best pictures as the sun began to peep over the mountains to the east lighting the sky in vivid ribbons of orange, yellow and azure blue with the black shape of the balloon outlined in the foreground.

Below us a woolly blanket of fog drifted over the towns and vineyards and up into the mountains. Occasionally, you could see just the very top of a majestic eucalyptus tree poking through. It was an eerie landscape until the sun rose high enough to burn off the fog and reveal the grand panorama of the 50-mile long Napa Valley.

The higher we went, the less afraid I was although the feeling of height is infinitely more intense than that of being in an airplane.

My beaming husband kept yelling at me to look at what was below. His keen eyes were picking out deer and rabbits scurrying in the vineyards as we silently drifted above them. Catherine was hanging on to my arm. Was that Gulliver's land of Lilliput below? Could we float around the world in 80 days like Phineas Fogg?

Dogs barked at us in the dawn when they heard the sudden, loud whoosh of the heater, the only sound the balloon makes. Roosters crowed. What an experience! It was like being part of another world watching the little, ordinary world of people below waking up to another day--a glorious Christmas Day.

Deadline for Next Issue
Wednesday, March 28

Area Students, Teachers To Visit Soviet Union in April

Four area high school students and five teachers will visit the Soviet Union for two weeks starting April 7 under the sponsorship of The New Forum, a Carmel-based pweace group.

Their visit follows an exchange of visits between students and teachers last year.

The students going on the trip are Paul Bartow, Monterey; Amanda Krupski, Pacific Grove; Zachery Alinder, Stevenson; and Jeff Arnold, York.

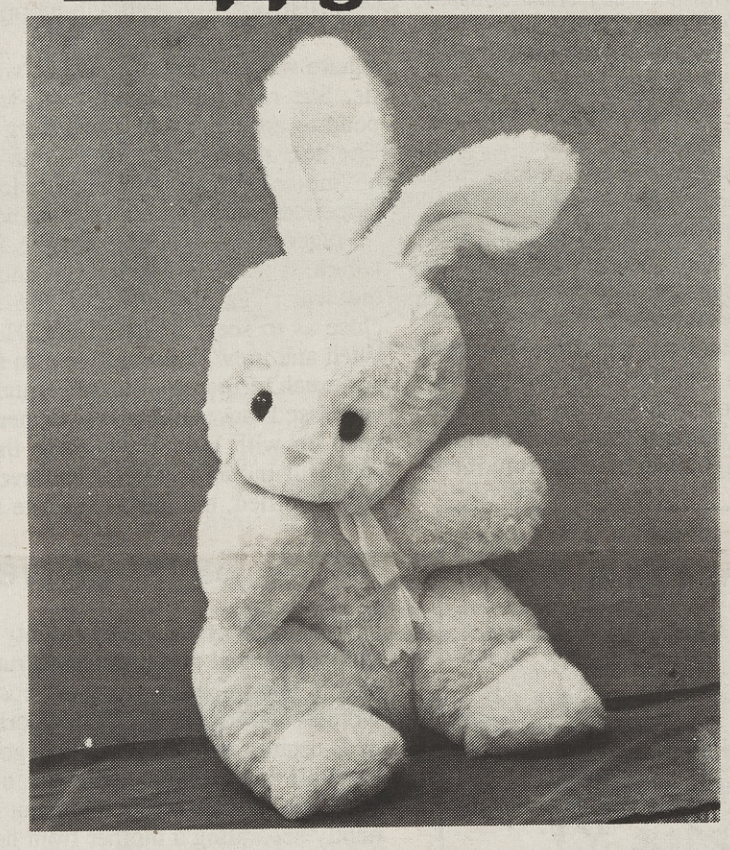
Accompanying them will be teachers Wayne Cruzan, Monterey; Peter Lyon, Carmel; Morris (Buzz) Joseph, Seaside; Sherry Blair, Santa Catalina; and Pamelas Clemens, York, who will be coordinator.

Participants pay half their transportation costs, with the remainder being made up from donations by Perninsula residents. All their costs in Russia will be met by their hosts.

The group plans to take special posters and 100 giant redwood seedlings with them to help celebrate Earth Day.

Mid Valley Shopping Center's Outstanding Merchants

Happy Easter



FROM MID VALLEY MERCHANTS

The Mid Valley Merchants Association wishes you a Happy Easter by giving 15 lucky customers large, stuffed rabbits.

Register to win at any of our merchants starting today, April 4. No purchase necessary. This is our way of thanking you for your business.

The drawing for winners will be April 13 at 11 a.m. Winners will be notified by telephone, and a full list will run in the April 18 *Sun*. See the cuddly bunnies at Roth's Gormet Deli, Cakes by Alessandro and MAIL BOXES USA.

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Little League Fundraiser Is April 7

The Carmel Valley Little League Batathon, one of the principal fundraisers of the year, will be held April 7 at the Little League Park on Hondo Paso, with major and minor leaguers alike trying to hit the ball as far as they can.

In the Batathon, the players collect pledges in advance from their relatives, friends and neighbors—say 10 cents a foot—and if they hit the ball 150 feet, they collect $15 to benefit the Little League.

"I hope everyone will make a generous pledge and then come out on the 7th and enjoy the fun," said League President Richard Rosenthal.

The Batathon traditionally raises about 40 percent of the Little League's annual budget, he said, so the community's support is critical.

As part of the Batathon, four round robin games, limited to 45 minutes each, will be played. Those match the Wolfpack against the Pirates at 8:30; Twins against Toros at 9:30; Broncos against the Hornets at 10:30; and Royals against the Cubs at 11:30.

Two regular season games will be played in the afternoon, matching the Indians against the Lions at 1:30 and the Cougars against the Tigers at 3:30.

As for the Batathon, here are the times for the teams to bat: (The Batathon is held on the new field, while the games are played on the old.)

8:30-9 Broncos; 9-9:30 Hornets; 9:30-10 Royals; 10-10:30 Cubs; 10:30-11 Wolfpack; 11-11:30 Pirates; 11:30-12 Twins; and 12-12:30 Toros.

Also, 1-1:30 Cougars; 1:30-2 Tigers; 2-2:30 Volunteers; 2:30-3 Falcons; 3-3:30 Lions; and 3:30-4 Indians.

Major league play will get underway prior to the Batathon, with all games starting at 5 p.m. The Lions meet the Falcons April 2; the Volunteers meet the Indians April 3; the Tigers meet the Falcons April 4; the Cougars play the Volunteers April 5; and play is then halted for spring break.

Major league play resumes and minor league play begins April 16. The *Sun* will print the schedules for subsequent play in its April 4 edition.

Time to Fly a Kite

The 59th Annual Kite Festival for all ages is scheduled Saturday, March 24 at Carmel Beach, 13th Street Cove.

Homemade kites will be judged on their flying ability, workmanship and creativity. Commercial kites will be judged on their flying ability.

Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. Judging will start at 1:30 p.m. The festival is sponsored by the Carmel Host Lions Club and the City of Carmel-by-the-Sea Recreation Department. 626-1255.

Trail & Saddle Sets Events

With the coming of spring weather, activity at the Trail and Saddle Club on Garzas Road is picking up. Four events are on tap in coming weeks.

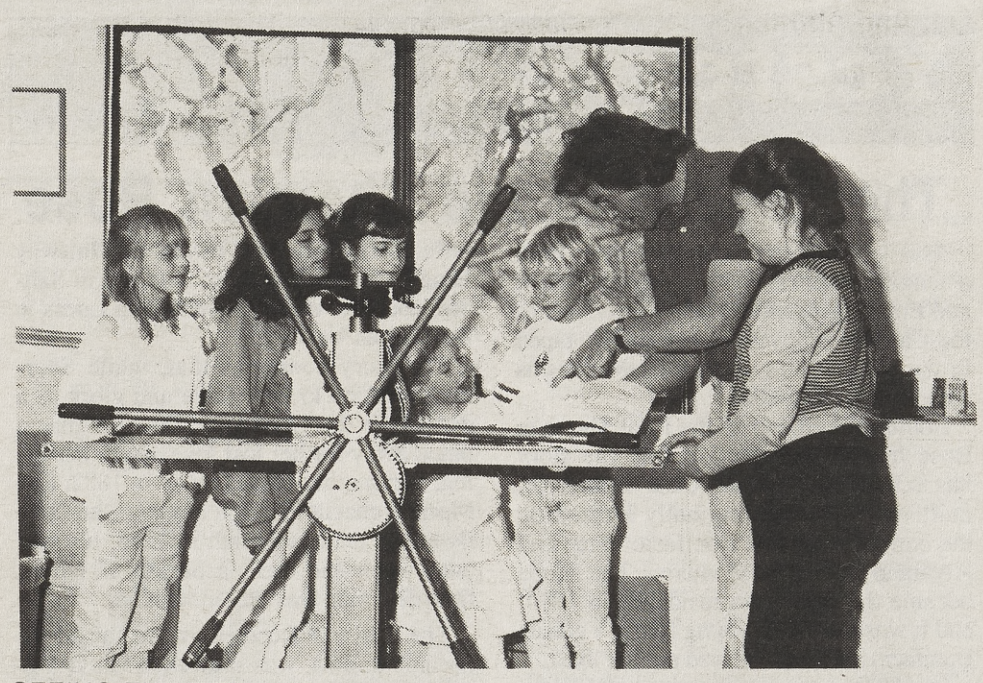
They are:

March 25—Playday
April 1—Western Show
April 7—Combined Event
April 8—English Show.

For information, telephone 659-5277.

Valley Youth Honored

Freshman Garret King has been chosen student of the month by the Carmel High School Industrial Arts Department. Department Head Jim Agan commended Garret for his ability to work with metal and his willingness to help out in the classroom. Garret's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Jerald King of Carmel Valley.



SEEING THE RESULTS of their labors, youngsters crowd around Village artist Andre Balyon who takes one of their etchings off the press. The printing of their work was the final step in the class sponsored by the Community Youth Center. Shown, from left, are: Amy Melton, Lea Duarte, Jennifer Scholl, Michelle Balyon, Roger Balyon, the artist, and Alisa Bradley. The spokes on the press allow the paper to be pressed firmly against the material on which the design has been etched and then inked for printing. *Sun Photo by John Anderson*

Forest Theater Offers Student Apprenticeships

For the first time, Carmel's Forest Theater Guild will offer a special apprentice program for 10 high school-aged students interested in a future in backstage disciplines of the theater.

Students entering the program will have to devote about 25 hours a week for 10 weeks, starting June 18, and will receive a stipend of $105 weekly. Daily instruction and work will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

The apprentices will get instruction in all technical aspects of theater—set design, painting techniques, lighting, electrics and set construction. In addition, each apprentice will be assigned jobs backstage for the Guild's two productions this summer, "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Merry Wives of Windsor."

The names of applicants for the positions should be submitted by high school drama instructors to production coordinator Carey Crockett no later than May 1. The apprentices will be selected by May 15.

For further information, telephone 626-1681 or 375-1120.

7th Grade Girls Go 17-0

The 7th grade girls basketball team from Middle School went undefeated this year, capping their 17-0 season by beating San Benacio in the post-season tournament played at Carmel High.

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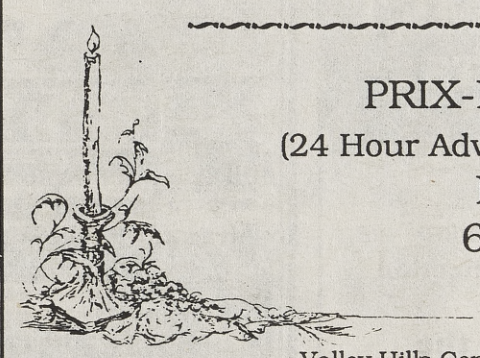

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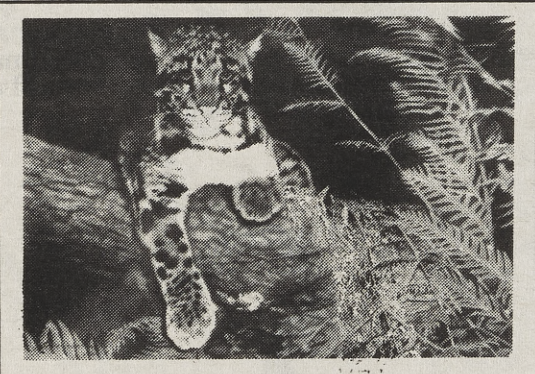

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By Lesley Harrison

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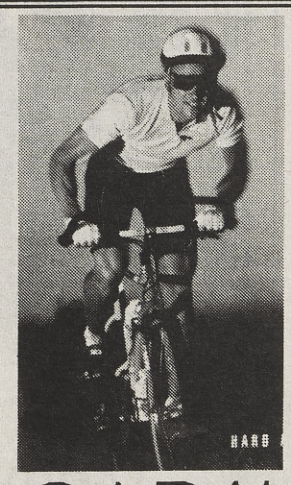

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Yesteryears

By Elizabeth Barratt

The Legend of the Sherman Rose

This is the final installment taken from a lengthy interview of Francisca Abbey and Emma Ambrosia, both descendants of the Carmel Valley Boronda family, taped in the early 1950's when the two cousins were in their mid-80's.

Some background to the local Sherman Rose legend will explain why the story has remained popular. Casa Bonifacio, built in 1835, was originally located on the corner of today's Bonifacio Place and Alvarado Streets in Monterey. The adobe became the Bonifacio residence in 1844, and it was there that young Maria Ygnacia Bonifacio and her widowed mother lived.

In 1847, then-Lieutenant William Tecumseh Sherman was headquartered in Monterey, and his office was in a small adobe next to the Larkin House on Calle Principal. Sherman was attached to the Third Artillery, and his arrival in California coincided with the beginning of American military occupancy in Monterey

The story goes that Lt. Sherman was attracted to the 15-year-old Maria Ygnacia. But soon, he was ordered to return to the east. Before departing, Sherman paid a final call on the young lady and gave her a cloth-of-gold rose. Legend further has it that Sherman and Maria Ygnacia planted the rose, and he pledged to her that he'd return when the flowers blossomed, to claim her for his own.

The rose bloomed on time, but unfortunately, Sherman never came back. Over the years, the senorita and her mother supported themselves by taking in boarders, among them Fanny Osbourne, lady love of Robert Louis Stevenson. Maria Ygnacia also cared for the children of Alberto Trescony, following the death of his wife. (Trescony was owner of Halfway House, the earliest tavern and inn in Salinas, and later owned Rancho San Lucas in the Salinas Valley.)

The story continues that, while Sherman went on to later fame and glory as a general in the Civil War, Maria Ygnacia pined away for her lost love, never marrying. Her mother passed away in 1882, and Maria Ygnacia lived on alone in the family adobe until her death in 1916. It's said that, when she died, a packet of letters from Sherman was buried with her.

The Sherman Rose House, as the adobe became known, was sold after Maria Ygnacia's death and in 1922 it was completely dismantled and moved to a Monterey location on Mesa Road.

Mrs. Ambrosia knew Maria Ygnacia and her mother, since she would go with her grandmother to visit Mrs. Rosanna Leese, whose boarding house was next door to the Larkin House on Calle Principal. For a brief period, Robert Louis Stevenson had rented a room from Mrs. Leese, when he came to Monterey to be with Fanny Osbourne.

But Mrs. Ambrosia said the Bonifacio-Sherman love story was just that—a story: "There was no romance. Miss Bonifacio told me herself that it wasn't true. The rose was already there and a lot of people commercialized it, you know, by saying that Sherman had brought the cutting...that she planted it and it grew into a big bush.

"It wasn't true that if the rose bloomed he was coming back to marry her and if it died, it was because his love had turned."

Mrs. Abbey added, "One of her relatives wrote quite an article in the Monterey paper contradicting the story because he said they were trying to commercialize it instead of telling both sides of the story of Senorita Bonifacio. She and Sherman were just good friends."

Mrs. Ambrosia concluded emphatically, "There was no romance. No, no."

But, it's said a portion of the rose bush still exists, and that transplanted with the old adobe, it blooms each year.

Editor's Note: "Yesteryears," a column about local history, is written under the auspices of the Carmel Valley History Society. The group meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Rosie's Cracker Barrel on Esquiline Road. The public is welcome.

People Are Reading

News from the Carmel Valley Library

NEW FICTION

Goatsong...Tom Holt
Estuary Pilgrim...Douglas Skaggs
Frankly Furbo...William Wharton
Bitter Sweet...LaVyrle Spencer
Passing On...Penelope Lively
Power of One...Bruce Courtenay
Sorceress of Darshiva: Book 4 of the Mallorean... David Eddings
The Joe Leaphorn Mysteries...Tony Hillerman
The Singing Detective...Dennis Potter
The Cat Who Talked to Ghosts...Lillian Jackson Braun

NEW NON-FICTION

A Wild Coast and Lonely: Big Sur Pioneers...Rosalind Sharp Wall
New Ideas from Dead Economists...Todd G. Bucholz
Transformations of Myth Through Time...Joseph Campbell
Beware the Naked Man Who Offers You his Shirt...Harvey Mackay
On Her Own: Growing Up in the Shadow of the American Dream...Ruth Sidel
Voices of Glasnost...Stephen Cohen
Be Your Own Detective...Greg Fallis
Parent's Guide to Feeding Your Kids Right...Kathleen Maloney
How to Talk to the People You Love...Don Gabor
Amelia Earhart: A Biography...Doris Rich

IRS and FTB forms are available to take or to copy. Library Hours: Tuesdays 11-8; Wednesdays and Fridays 10-6; Thursdays 2-6; and Saturdays 10-5.

Pre school storytime is presented at the Carmel Valley Branch Library on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 10 a.m. These programs are free, a half-hour in length and open to children ages 3 and up.

Gail O'Brien Is New Valley Librarian

Gail O'Brien, a resident of the Monterey Peninsula for 21 years, has taken over the librarian's duties at the Carmel Valley Library.

She replaces Myra Kong, who held the post temporarily for several months. She has returned to her regular post at the Castroville Library.

Ms. O'Brien is the mother of three grown children and has several grandchildren. She received her BA from UC Santa Cruz and her Master of Library Science degree from UC Berkeley. She came to the Valley from Seaside where she was a reference librarian.

Previously, she had served as children's librarian at Prunedale and Seaside branches and at the Monterey Public Library. Before joining the County system in 1981, she served three years as librarian at Santa Catalina School.

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Business Briefs

After considering selling her part-ownership of **Carmel Valley Business Services, Kathie McCrary** definitely has decided to stay on, and now the business plans to expand. Kathie and her partner, **Teresa Sakasegawa,** are going to remodel the west side of their shop in the Village so they can carry a wider selection of office supplies. In addition, Kathie will be available to sell business cards, stationery, rubber stamps and other items, by appointment, at the homes or offices of prospective customers. Kathie has had Business Services for eight years; Teresa has been her partner for three.

Randy Randazzo is throwing a big open house on Friday, March 23, to mark the completion of extensive renovations at his **Carmel Valley Market** in the Village. He replaced fixtures, shelving, the floor and freezers. Randy has been in the Village 22 years and is one of the fellows everyone calls on when there's civic or charitable work to be done.

Carmel Valley Chamber of Commerce invites members and friends to attend a mixer on Thursday, March 22, at the **Express D'Orient Restaurant** at the Crossroads. It's from 5 to 7 p.m., and reservations should be made by calling the Chamber at 659-4000.

With a little wine and cheese, members of the **Carmel Valley Village Improvement Committee (CVPOA)** which organized the **1st Annual Village Affair** hosted the restaurants and chefs who helped make it so successful last January. "You were the key to it," **Peter Coakley of Valley Lodge** told them, handing out framed certificates. "I don't think anyone imagined there were so many high-quality restaurants and food preparers right here in the Village." The reception was held at **Robles del Rio** on March 14.

Plaza Linda Mexican Restaurant has opened an attractive deli carry-out at the front of the popular eatery on Del Fino. It's now open just in the evenings, but consideration is being given to opening it at lunch later in the year. The carry-out is in the space formerly occupied by **Creative Balloons,** which now is in the space the **SPCA Thrift Shop** had used.

Frank Jerant, executive vice president for U. S. winery operations for **Vintners International,** has been re-elected president of the **Monterey Wine Country Associates,** a trade group. His California responsibilities for Vintners International include three **Paul Masson** and **Taylor California** wineries. Jerant lives in Monterey.

Dr. Al Giordano, professor emeritus of the Business Division at **Monterey Peninsula College,** has been elected president of the U. S. chapter of the **International Society for Business Education.**

After six years, **Denis Thush** is closing his **Mushrooms & Produce** retail store on Del Fino. He will continue serving his commercial accounts, providing fresh produce to Valley hotels, restaurants, caterers and anyone wanting to buy by the case.

State Sen. Henry J. Mello, D-Watsonville, selected **Pat Miniaci,** executive vice president at **Monterey County Bank,** as 1990 Woman of the Year from his district. For the past four years, one woman from each senate and assembly district has been so honored as part of Women's History Month. This year's honorees will be introduced in the senate and assembly chambers in Sacramento on March 26 and receive a resolution of commendation.

Carmel Valley Ranch Sale Pending; Landmark to Remain as Operator

Landmark Land Co. announced the pending sale of Carmel Valley Ranch for some $60 million, but said it would stay on to operate the resort in mid Carmel Valley.

The prospective purchaser is American International Golf Resorts, Inc., of Greenbrae, which is near Larkspur in the Bay Area. The sale is for the 100-room resort hotel and adjacent tennis and golf facilities and would net Landmark about $28 million in profit, the company said.

Landmark said the sale is contingent on a number of conditions being met during a 60-day review period, including agreement on a contract under which Landmark would continue to operate the property on a long-term basis.

"On the face of it, things would be changed very little around here," said Ted Goin, Carmel Valley Ranch Resort project manager. "Landmark Land Co. will continue the operation of the property and the present members will retain all the rights and privileges extended under current membership agreements. They will see little or no change in the day-to-day operations."

Landmark, headed by Jerry Barton and based in Carmel, owns several other golf properties. It said it sold the Carmel Valley property as its first step to comply with new government rules growing out of the savings and loan crisis.

Landmark has been funding its resort developments from deposits in Oak Tree Savings Bank, a S & L it owns in Louisiana. But federal regulators have ordered S & Ls to reduce their investments in real estate, claiming it is too risky.

In February, Barton told the *Sun* Landmark was looking for investments of up to $650 million in its golf and real estate developments.

Carmel Valley Ranch Manager Cal Jepson said it was not unusual in the hotel business for properties to be operated by organizations other than their owners. Landmark pointed to its management of La Quinta Hotel and Golf and Tennis Resort since its sale to CRI of Bethesda, Md., in 1984.

American International also owns other golf properties, having participated in the acquisitions of Silverado Country Club and Chardonnay Golf Club, both in the Napa Valley.

Development of Carmel Valley Ranch started about 12 years ago with a tennis club. The golf course was constructed in 1981, and the hotel, with its 100 rooms, was built in 1987. In addition to the resort facilities, Landmark also created some 400 homesites. Goins said of those about 200 have been built on, others are for sale and some 100 have been placed in a land reserve.

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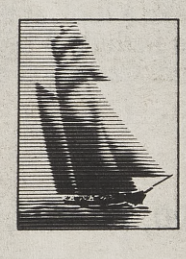

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Home Sales

The following property sales were recorded in the office of the Monterey County Recorder from Feb. 20 to March 12. The information is taken from records available to the public. Sale prices are estimated on the basis of transfer tax paid to the county.

The *Sun* makes every effort to report these sales accurately, but anyone should consult a Realtor or other investment professional before taking action based on this information.

LOWER CARMEL VALLEY

Old Ranch Rd. Harold & Pauline H. Wright to Janet Sassoon. $328,000.

9802 Club Place Lane. Arthur R. & Sally J. Greenlee to Richard W. & C. Joy Jeffery. $384,000.

10136 Oakwood Circle. Landmark Land Co. of California, Inc. to MRK V. Limited. $190,000.

High Meadow Dr. Dolores J. Fearn to Ralph P. & Frances R. Sackerman. $233,000.

173 Del Mesa Carmel. Joseph F. Enright to Geneva M. Alger. $290,000.

27181 Prado Del Sol. Grant F. Swanson to David R. & Anne Pratt. $630,000.

10178 Oakwood Circle. Landmark Land Co. of California to Richard L. & Phyllis D. Avila. $150,000.

10172 Oakwood Circle. Landmark Land Co. of California to Richard L. & Phyllis D. Avila. $140,000.

Schulte Rd. Basil Clark Inc. to Christopher A. & Jacqueline Seaberg & David C. & Cathie L. Lyon. $150,000.

Pine Hills Drive. Don M. & Angela M. Kiser to Robert M. & Rebecca L. Leidig. $680,500.

10088 Oak Branch Circle. Landmark Land Co. to Robert W. Mack. $205,000.

4220 Segunda Drive. Lola Maskiewitz to Donald V.Z. & Judith H. Wadsworth. $450,000.

24520-21 Outlook Dr. John C. Mackay to Serafin V. & Erlin O. Jimenez. $385,000.

UPPER CARMEL VALLEY

23 Wawona Rd. J.C. Hills to John R. & Joyce A. Pfeifer. $205,000.

47 Rancho Rd. Julia M. Porcelius to Thomas W. Wertheimer & Thomas J. Saunders. $309,000.

Chaparral Rd. Deborah D. Noakes to Mark W. & Ava C. Hyles. $443,000.

Delfino Pl. Emile & Monique Sarphati & Monique Paul to Sam. J. Balester, Joseph M. & Debra Anastasia & Anthony J. & Natalie Palma. $165,000.

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Famous Sculptor's Studio

Unique studio and home of nationally known sculptor Alexander G. Weygers on 1-1/2 acres in oak-studded La Rancheria section of Carmel Valley. Exquisite setting. Studio with balconies, chain hoists, skylights plus curved roof, all designed for practical sculpture, is, itself, a living sculpture. Lower level has a blacksmith shop where Weygers taught. Separate, basic residence, never updated. NO AMENITIES, i.e. central heating, modern baths or kitchen built-ins. Must have at least 6 mos. escrow. **$435,000.**

For private showing. Call W.A. Ehrle **624-0057.**

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'BLUE HEAVEN'

This 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home encompasses over 3,000 square feet of living space. Situated on 1 level, usable acre at end of private road in C.V., this little piece of heaven is ideal for family living & priced below its appraised value $575,000. 625-3300.

FOR THE DISCRIMINATING BUYER!

Brand new executive estate in Monterey offering generous appointments not usually found! Panoramic bay & valley views, spacious rooms designed for entertaining & privacy. Old World character and room for pool or guest house. JUST REDUCED TO $815,000. 625-3300.

GREAT PRICE —GREAT LOCATION!

Spacious unit in Monterey with a peek of the bay. Split entry floor plan, vaulted ceiling and fireplace in living room. Close to busline, schools and shopping. Offered at $249,950. 625-3300.

WALK TO TOWN!

Totally remodeled P.G. home. New foundation, wiring, plumbing, fixtures in both baths & kitchen, new floorings, walls & lights. Everything sparkling new! Storage unbelievable. Attic. Walk-in pantry & built-ins. ONLY $254,900! 625-3300.

DON'T BOARD THE DOG!

If the landlord doesn't want your pets, take a look at this Marina home with a large fenced yard! Other features include 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room. Sauna. Formal dining room. Cathedral ceiling & Only 2 years old! $223,000. 625-3300.

100 Clock Tower Place, Suite 100, Carmel, CA 625-3300

Del Monte REALTY COMPANY

WONDERFUL BUY! On a generous-sized fenced lot in Monterey, a lovely, older family home in need of some updating. Located in a quiet neighhborhood off Herrman Road convenient to both town & schools. Appealing features include an open-beam ceiling in the spacious living room with brick fireplace, a formal dining room, 3-bedrooms & 2 baths. Enhancing the property is mature landscaping with lawn & box-wood hedges plus a patio & BBQ in rear yard. $405,000 625-4111.

NEW ON THE MARKET! Nestled on a quiet cul-de-sac in a walk-to-town Carmel location is this delightful home. The many oaks & pines ensure an enviable privacy. A 2-bedroom, 2-bath beautifully-maintained property offering many amenities. These include open-beam ceilings, hardwood random-plank floors, tiled kitchen with abundant storage, skylights, tiled raised-hearth fireplace in living room & separate dining area. Separate furnace storage room, heavy shake roof & low maintenance yard. $435,000. 625-4111.

NEARING COMPLETION! Set among pines & adjacent to a brook, this new Carmel home will delight the discerning buyer looking for location, quality & charm. Due for April completion, this wood-shingled 2-bedroom home will feature Pozzi windows & handcrafterd cedar front door. Hardwood floors, Corian kitchen counters, maple cabinets, 2 tiled baths & Harden plumbing fixtures are just some of the quality interior accents. Exclusive listing. $549,000. 625-0300

OCEAN VIEWS! A lovely large 4-bedroom, 3-1/2 bath Carmel home, remodeled in '86, featuring designer wallpaper, matching window coverings and light, bright rooms. Ideal for living & entertaining, the living room with fireplace is spacious, there is a formal dining room, a family room & nicely designed tile-accented kitchen with custom cabinets and breakfast area. Beautiful ocean views are seen from the living room, dining room, kitchen & large master suite. $799,000. 655-0300.

CARMEL 625-0300 Junipero near Fifth
624-0300 Ocean near Lincoln

MONTEREY 655-0300 666 Camino Aguajito near Fremont First Floor

PEBBLE BEACH 625-4111 The Lodge at Pebble Beach
647-7494 The Inn at Spanish Bay

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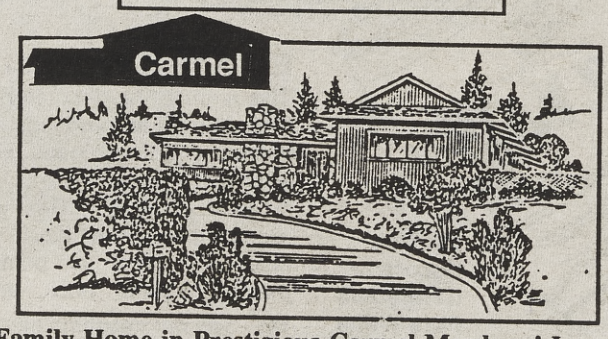

Immaculate Family Home in Prestigious Carmel Meadows! Large living room, dining area, 4 BR/2BA, den and darkroom. Lovely views of Carmel hills and Fish Ranch. Carefree backyard with spa, gas barbecue and observation deck. Perfect home for those who love to walk the beach, watch whales and observe bird life.....$429,500

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Real Estate Outlook

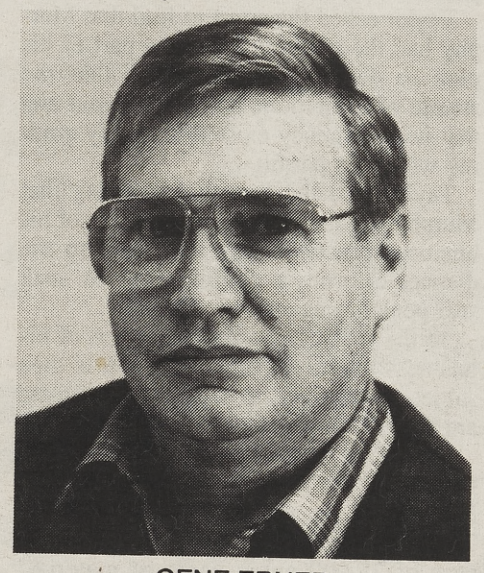
Whither the Housing Market?

By Gene Erner
Porter-Marquard Realty

What is the state of the real estate market in Carmel Valley at this time? Well, there is both good news and bad news! The bad news is that the market is not as strong as it was through the summer and fall of 1989. The good news is that it is still a good climate for selling residential real estate, both existing homes and vacant legal lots of record.

There has been a leveling off of prices, it appears.The median price is still right up there at about $360,000 for a single family residence, however, and not much indication that prices will fall. We are seeing a market to which negotiation has returned. Whereas a few months ago sellers were confident they could get full price, or very near it, hence were reluctant to consider anything other than this, now there is a little more give and take in most sales agreements. Similarly, marketing time has stretched out some, requiring longer exposure of the average property prior to receipt of acceptable offers.

There is, however, one huge unknown on the horizon, the impact of which is only conjectural at this time. That unknown is the potential closing or significant scaling back of personnel and operations at Fort Ord. The direct effect for the Carmel Valley real estate market will probably not be severe as rising prices in this area have generally placed properties out of the financial reach of most military personnel; at least those without independent, financial resources. However, consider that the Marina, Seaside, and to a lesser extent the Salinas markets, would be greatly affected. For those invested in rental properties, significantly increased vacancies and lower rental prices can be expected, with a resultant loss of equity value in such properties. The general economic climate in the entire Peninsula, and, in fact, the County would be strongly affected.



GENE ERNER

Consider some of the direct effects which have been postulated if the fort closes. Lost to the area would be $731 million in salaries, $155 million in service and construction contracts, over 3,000 Department of the Army and other jobs at Fort Ord, an estimated 25,300 private sector jobs in the County, with a reduction of $277 million in personal income and a loss of $969 million in private sector sales. Some schools would have to be closed and others would suffer significant loss of federal and state aid. Population losses would be on the order of 33,000 and would result in reductions in state subventions to Marina and Seaside. No matter where you live on or around the Peninsula you are bound to be affected.

All things considered, the foregoing presents a pretty grim economic picture for the area. However, this, and other closures or reductions have not been readily accepted in the political arena. It would appear that it will be some considerable time until what, if anything, will actually take place will be known.

Then, too, it should be said, that a number of alternative uses have been suggested for this property. While it is probably premature to speculate on these, in the long run Monterey County will survive and recover its economic health. It is to be fervently hoped that the period of uncertainty about what will happen to Fort Ord can be kept as short as possible so that we may all know what the future holds.

Sculptor's House for Sale

The house and studio of the late sculptor Alexander G. Weygers is on the market in the La Rancheria area of Carmel Valley.

Weygers who died last year won national acclaim with his sculptures although he rarely exhibited or sold them.

Many of the sculptures are in the process of being cast into bronze by the Monterey Sculpture Center. The center's Charles Lawrence Fisher says Weygers has been called "a modern-day Leonardo da Vinci."

The reclusive sculptor built the small house, himself, in 1944. It is described in his official biography as "something out of Tolkien's middle earth—a kind of geodesic dome gone wild."

He also wrote four books: "The Modern Blacksmith," "The Making of Tools, "The Recycling, Use and Repair of Tools" and "Form, Sculpture, Philosophy."

The 1.5-acre property is being offered for sale by his widow, Marian, with W.A. Ehrle of Carmel Valley for $435,000. The land was bequeathed to the Weygers by a close friend who was killed in a plane accident.

Weygers believed that the "tremendous waste of our society" made his way of life possible. He found a use for everything, for example, modifying a discarded dentist's chair into a working pedestal for sculpture in progress.

Home Sales

Continued from facing page

Carmel Valley Rd. Carl Vierra & Albert E. Brooking, Jr. to Frederick T. Saunders. $114,000.

CARMEL

Torres St. Harrison F. Comstock, Christine S. Faux, Linda S. Strout & Barbara S. Peterson to Roger L. & Valerie Jolley. $295,000.

San Antonio St. Harris & Geraldine Monosoff to William & Susan Tabor. $900,000.

Torres St. Harrison F. Comstock, Christine S. Faux, Linda S. Strout & Barbara S. Pederson to George F. & Clotilda Booth & Dana S. Booth. $295,000.

Mission St. Akhtar Sabety to John P. & Patricia Sammon. $315,000.

Camino Real. Bernard M. & Bonnie J. Dervin to Real Estate Monterey. $525,000.

Camino Real. Real Estate Monterey to Earl Y. Meyers, II. $525,000.

GREATER CARMEL

26271 Camino Real. Alan & James D. Devine to Hugo J. Ferlito. $525,000.

24670 Guadalupe. Timothy Gordon & Peggy J. Rieman to Timothy Gordon, Peggy J. Rieman & Esther Gordon. $185,000.

24572 Guadalupe. Toland S. & Beverly Doud to Thomas J. & Kathleen T. Mitchell. $450,000.

3217 Pico Ave. Charles L. & Alice D. Barrett to Albert G. Giordano. $375,000.

3528 Mesa Ct. Vincent A. & Olga Bruno to Evelyn M. Dorn. $465,000.

24535 S. San Luis. Carolyn J. Brown to Michael E. & Ann M. Ronten. $239,000.

3645 Rio Rd. William D. Bonhan to Richard A. & Maria C. Fetherstonhaugh. $670,000.

COAST

2615 Ribera Rd. Leo & Elizabeth Schoenbrun to Barrie F. & Ada T. Regan. $1,900,000.

2995 Ribera Rd. Larry Casner & Doris Murdock to Audrey & F. Douglas Taylor. $410,000.

2932 Cuesta Way. Daniel & In Yae Bradbury to John Saar. $369,500.

2650 Ribera Rd. Malcolm E. & Jodi Moran to Frank C. & Regina Amato. $373,500.

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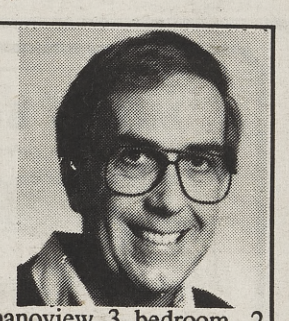

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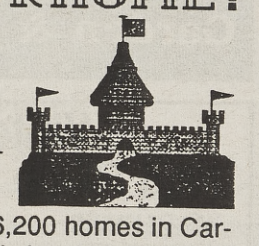

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CARMEL VALLEY SUN

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This dramatic 3 bedroom 2 bath split level home, nestled among tall pine trees, is the perfect setting for peace and serenity! Enjoy the cheerful sun streaming into the14 x 19 living room with open-beamed ceiling. Deck and patio finish the atmosphere of this very comfortable home. If you like sunshine, serenity, see this Valley home today! All this comfort for just **$345,000.**

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FAX (408) 659-3926

Events

NATURAL HISTORY SLIDE PRESENTATION, Monterey Bay Dunes Coalition, Seaside Library, 7 p.m. March 29. Free. 375-6458.

EASTER BUNNY puppet show for kids, Thunderbird Bookshop, 11 a.m., March 31. Free. 624-4995.

SPRING AND SUMMER FASHION SHOW, 2 p.m., Barnyard Gardens, March 31. 624-8886.

ANNUAL FASHION SHOW, Carmel Valley Women's Club, 11:30 a.m. Hacienda Carmel, April 4. Guests welcome and reservations required. 659-4093 or 659-5144.

RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE, Junipero Serra School Parents' Club, March 24 and 25, starting at 9 a.m., in Crespi Hall, behind Carmel Mission. Proceeds benefit the school. 372-6871 after 6 p.m.

KARPATOK HUNGARIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE, 8 p.m., March 31, Sunset Center, Carmel. Tickets are $12.50 and $10. For reservations or information, 624-3996 or 649-5561.

RUMMAGE SALE, Women's Association, First Presbyterian Church, Monterey, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 501 El Dorado Street, March 24. 373-4603.

TEA DANCE, sponsored by Luz Vi Minda Lions Club to benefit blind and visually impaired, 4:30-7:30 p.m. Monterey Sheraton, March 25. $7 donation. 649-8235.

JARED JACOBSEN, Monarch Organ Concert Series, 8 p.m. First United Methodist Church, Pacific Grove, April 6. Tickets $6 and $8. 649-5561.

WALKATHON to benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Society, starting at Del Monte Shopping Center and Pacific Grove High School, 8:30 a.m., April 1. 1-800-FIGHT MS.

MENSA QUALIFYING TEST, Salinas, March 31. For reservations write: Francis Cartier, 1029 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove, 93950. 375-8065 noon-7 p.m.

DR. JOHN MIHU, Russian history instructor at MPC and former member of the Romanian government, MPC Faculty Lecture Series, MPC Lecture Forum. Monterey, noon, March 26. Free. 646-4262.

AUTHOR SUZANNE ARMS, discusses her latest book, *Adoption—a Handful of Hope*, Thunderbird for Kids Community Room, 7-9 p.m. March 29. Free. 624-1803.

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" and "THE TWO BROTHERS," presented by the Staff Players Repertory Company, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30, through March 31, Indoor Stage, Forest Theater, Carmel. Reservations, 624-1531 or 649-5561.

THE MONTEREY BAY CHAPTER of the American Cetacean Society will hear Dr. Jim Harvey of Moss Landing Marine Laboratory on Marine Mammal Research, Fisher Hall, Hopkins Marine Station, Pacific Grove, 7:30 p.m., March 28.

A BENEFIT SPRING DANCE will be held April 7, 7:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., for the League of United Latin American Citizens at Portuguese Hall, 950 Casanova St., Monterey.

Grading Case Pressed

Continued from front page

sion control on the ranch was not carried out under County auspices.

For the state, Kaufman asked the court to find that Murphy's constitutional rights had not been violated by taking his property without due process, that his civil rights had not been violated and that he had failed to exhaust all administrative procedures available to him.

Taylor asked the court to find that Murphy had the grading done as a part of his plan to develop the property, that the statute of limitations had not expired and that no emergency existed to justify grading without a permit.

Taylor told the *Sun* that showing that Murphy had the grading done as part of his business practices was important to the district attorney's commitment to seek stiff penalties against Murphy.

"If the violations occurred as part of his business practices, each violation is then subject to a fine of up to $2,500, and there are a lot of violations," Taylor said.

Carrasco's deposition was among those filed with the motions. In it, he said he had visited the ranch on May 27, 1988. There, he said he saw "evidence of in excess of 75,000 cubic yards of material" that had been cut from the slopes.

In another deposition, Michael A. Berry of the State Fish & Game Department said the material spilled down the hillsides, covering vegetation, blocking Wildcat Creek and causing silt to flow into streams. Berry, who said he visited the ranch on Nov. 30, 1988, said material from the grading caused several landslides into Wildcat Creek, one 183 feet long which blocked the entire channel.

In support of his motion, Taylor submitted a transcript of some of Murphy's earlier testimony in the case.

In it, Murphy discussed developing the ranch commercially to include two "wilderness areas" and building lots. Taylor said Murphy wanted to create "a minimum of of 50" building lots on the property and trade density credits with other developers in the area.

A hearing on the state and County motions was set for April 6, but Ramos said he expected the hearing to be rescheduled at that time because arguments probably would be prolonged.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL "DAFFODIL FESTIVAL" will be held at the historic Custom House Plaza April 14-15. The event showcases the diverse contemporary work of Monterey Bay and Northern California artists who support wild life refuges. *Sun photo by Stan Hall*

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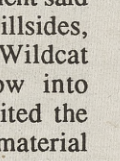

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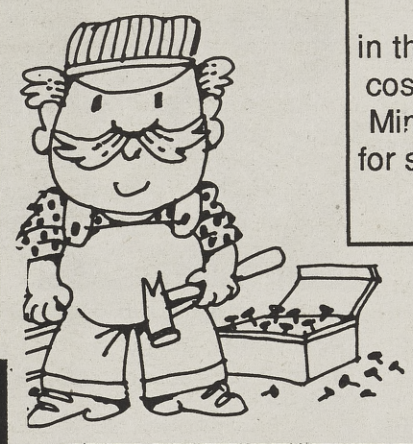

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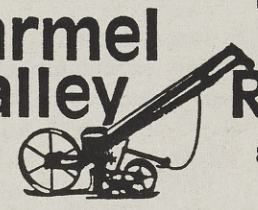

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English Phone Booths to Adorn Gas Station at Carmel Highlands

The contentious issue of whether to allow two red English telephone booths at the only gas station on Highway 1 between Rio Road and Big Sur moved a step closer to solution Monday night.

The Highlands-Bixby Advisory Committee held a two-hour hearing and on-site inspection of the proposal by Dan Keig, owner of the Chevron Gas Station and the adjacent land rented by The Sculpture House & Gardens art gallery. Keig has been trying for months to get approval for the telephone booths.

After taking public comment that was split about evenly over the booths, the committee voted 5-2 in favor of the red color; 6-1 in favor of the British-style phones; and 5-2 for a different location on the property. The action will be forwarded to the County Planning Commission.

Keig wants to place the booths just north of where his present American-style booths sit on the shoulder of the highway. Several local residents strongly objected on safety grounds, complaining that 18-wheel trucks and other huge vehicles pull up now to use the telephone and block the dangerous intersection where two roads converge with the winding highway.

Several others urged approval for the English booths and praised Keig for taking an eyesore and turning it into "one of the best looking gas stations on the coast."

Clifford Bagwell, a resident, said he represented a group who wanted parking banned on the shoulder of the gas station property: "The shoulder is for emergency parking. Telephones attract the public to drive in any old way."

Two committee members argued that the red color did not comply with the Carmel Land Use Plan requirement for "earth tones." Two others pointed out that the trim on the gas station currently is red and that Chevron signs are red, white and blue "everywhere in the country."

Carmel Highlands Fire Chief Lannie White supported Keig's request. He said the phone booths were very important in reporting accidents as they are the only ones over a long distance and need to be visible.

This raised the issue among committee members as to why there is no sign on Highway 1 pointing to the secluded location of the fire department on Fern Canyon up above the road. They were told Cal-Trans had opposed a sign.

Keig received a letter Dec. 27 from Cal Trans Special Studies Department in San Luis Obispo approving the concept of his request for English telephone booths.

Chris Staedler of EMC Planning Group, which handles the property, told the *Sun* after the hearing, "We will have to try and convince the Planning Department that the proposed location is the only place for the booths. We would like to have the Advisory Committee approval but we understand their concerns. A lot of the problems they are concerned with aren't going to change no matter where the booths are placed."

Deadline for Next Issue
March 28

A GATHERING OF CLASSICS. When a Salinas car collectors' club visited Garland Park in the Valley, the old autos attracted a lot of attention. Shown here are a handsome Packard, a DeSoto and a Cadillac. (See an additional picture on page 5.)
Sun photo by Stan Hall

Chapel Plans Messiah Performance April 8

In celebration of Easter, the Carmel Valley Community Chapel will present a performance of Handel's Messiah on April 8 at 3 p.m. which will include portions of the work that are rarely heard.

"People often perform the first part of the Messiah, which deals with the birth of Jesus Christ," said Music Director Steve Tosh. "But rarely does one get to hear the second part, which deals with the Passion." Tosh said Handel also wrote alternative movements for many of the more familiar solos and choruses, and some of them will be incorporated into the performance.

The chorus will be made up of local residents and members of the chapel, accompanied by an instrumental ensemble, and four soloists will sing the arias and some of the choruses, Tosh said. He added that he hoped this group will develop into a local Valley Community chorus.

Heald Wins Office

Chief Bob Heald of the Carmel Valley Fire Department has been elected second vice president of of the California Fire Chief's Asociation. Chief at Carmel Valley for 10 years, he will be chairman of the northern section two years and become statewide president in three years.

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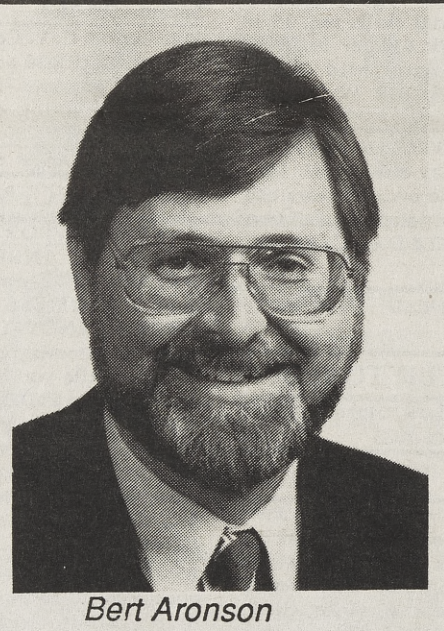

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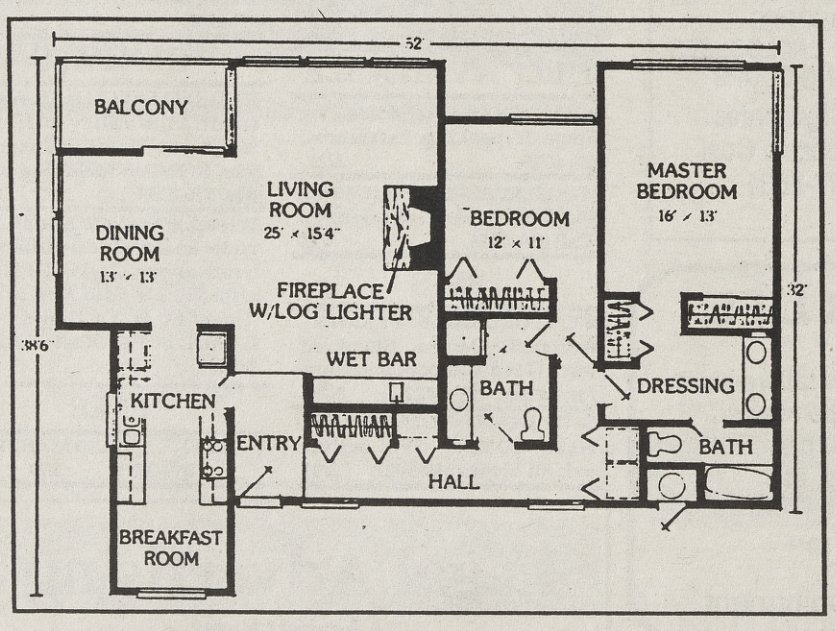

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WALL STREET JOURNAL
Feb. 13, 1990

In Real Estate, Big Beats Small In Many Cases

By MICHAEL SELZ
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

For many small real-estate brokers, independence is becoming the freedom to lose business.

Across the country these days, small brokers are grappling with a painful decision: Should they exchange their freedom as independent entrepreneurs for the deep pockets of bigger firms?

Among those answering yes is Jim Wanzeck. As an agent for one of Denver's oldest independent real-estate-brokerage houses, Mr. Wanzeck was locked in a losing battle with Re/Max International Inc. Last year he decided to quit fighting.

"Their market share constantly went up, and ours was constantly dwindling," says Mr. Wanzeck, who himself now owns a Re/Max franchise, one of 1,700 such offices in the U.S. and Canada.

The bigger brokers clearly are gaining ground. Today, a half-dozen national organizations and the 25 biggest regional firms handle more than 40% of all house sales, says Tom Dooley, an Illinois real-estate consultant. (Mr. Dooley's estimate excludes new houses, which developers usually sell.)

Richard [illegible] more likely to land house buyers, whose ranks haven't grown in years.

The heightened competition also has started a bidding war for the best agents, who are highly coveted in a business plagued by poor productivity. Brokers used to share half of the sales commissions with these agents. Now firms such as Re/Max hand over the entire commission to top producers in return for a fixed monthly payment to cover their overhead.

To Katrina Henry, a Philadelphia real-estate agent whose independent broker joined Electronic Realty Associates, a national franchise better known for its implications are long to a nation- pendent."

Who Sells the Most Homes
Shares of residential resales during the seven months through July 1989

Century 21	11.3%
Re/Max	8.7
Coldwell Banker	5.9
Electronic Realty Associates	3.4
Prudential	3.0
Better Homes & Gardens	1.0
All other national franchises	1.0
Top-25 independent brokers	5.8

Source: TWD & Assoc. estimate

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